Monasticon

FAVERSHAMIENSE

IN

Agro Cantiano:

OR

A SURVEIGH

OF THE

Monastry of *Faversham*

IN THE

County of *KENT*.

Wherein its Barony and Right to sit in Parlament is discovered. Together with its Antient and Modern estate described. As also its Founder and Benefactors Remembred.

By *Tho Southouse* of *Greys-Inne* Esq;

——*Olim meminisse juvabit.*

To which is added an Appendix of the Descent of King *Stephen*, by *Tho. Philipot* Esq;

London, Printed for *T. Passenger* living at the sign of the three Bibles upon *London bridge*, 1671.

TO THE

Right Worshipful

Sir *George Sonds*,

Knight of the *Bath*, Lord of the Mannor and Hundred of *Faversham*, and the Royalty of the Fishing-Grounds thereunto belonging.

Sir,

THis ensuing Piece (as a treasure trove) being discovered within the circumference and dominion of your Seigniory, I humbly offer up unto Your view and acceptance, as by Law and Duty I am obliged to do: Let not then the antique-

neſs of the ſtamp, or meanneſs of the allay thereof, not currant in this our more refined age, move you unto any diſreſpect thereof, ſince this was the common Bullion or Ore in which our ſacred treaſure once lay confuſed and blended together, untill ſuch time as Henry *the Eighth, (that ſubtle Refiner) however impure himſelf, purified it from that droſſy maſs, and ſtampt upon it a different worth and character. And now,* Sir, *having diſcharged this debt, I crave the honour only of being eſteemed,*

Your

Faithful Servant

Tho. Southouſe.

THE EPISTLE TO THE READER.

Among which,

To the Major, Jurats, Commonalty, and the reſt of the Inhabitants of the town of Faverſham, *and the Pariſhes adjoyning.*

SIRS,

HAving lived ſo many years within the verge and precincts of ſo remarkable an Abby as this once was, & obſerving with how ruinous and maimed an aſpect it now beholds us, expecting it every day to ſink

under the heavy preſſure of its own weight, and lie entombed in the rubbage of its ruines amongſt the reſt of its no leſs comely parts, and the hiſtory thereof be quite forgotten, I thought my ſelf in duty bound (partly for the honour I bear unto the town I live in, to which this ſtructure (when in its primitive ſpendor and beauty) was no mean ornament; as alſo that the piety of our forefathers, (which was in nothing more conſpicuous than in ſuch ſacred foundations) might not languiſh into decay, and be crowded into the grave of oblivion by the fall of theſe their depreſſed monuments) to reſcue from the teeth of all

Camb. Brit. Preface.

all-devouring time and oblivion ſome memorials concerning the primitive ſtate & condition thereof; which I found my ſelf the better capacitated to do, in reſpect of certaine Manuſcripts in my own poſſeſſion (hereunto relating) not elſewhere to be found, amongſt which the *Leiger* of this houſe lent me by the Honourable Sir *Geo. Sonds*, to which I have made many references in the enſuing Diſcourſe. *Gentlemen*, this Hiſtory is calculated chiefly for the Meridian of *Faverſham*, although it may not altogether be unſerviceable to others more remote, and therefore it is expected to thrive amongſt

mongſt you. The main aime and deſign I had in compoſing hereof, was to unhoodwink your eyes, and to bring you acquainted with the antiquities and venerable monument within your ſelves, that you may not, like the lazy and ignorant *Syracuſians*, ſtand in need of a ſtrangers information to diſcourſe unto you of the Hiſtory of this our Abby, with which your ſelves (with ſhame be it ſpoken) are unacquainted.

Sirs, I have ſent out this particular Treatiſe as an harbenger to beſpeak your entertainment of a ſurveigh of the town it ſelf, which (if this be kindly accepted of) I ſhall

I ſhall be encouraged to haſten with the greateſt diligence and ſpeed that may be; expecting that you will be free in communicating unto me ſuch Manuſcripts and Records which are within your keepings, which may any ways tend unto the advancement and carrying on ſo charitable and neceſſary a work: And in the mean while I commend this my firſt-born unto your hands and protections, which if you gratefully receive, you will very much oblige the tender Parent thereof to be,

Sirs,

Your Faithful Friend

to ſerve you

Tho. Southouſe.

To his Worthy Friend *Thomas Southouſe* of *Greys-Inne* Eſquire, upon his Publication of his *Monaſticon Faverſhamienſe.*

SHould now the Goth *and barb'rous* Vandal *riſe,*
And raze again Records and Hiſtories,
And cruſh thoſe Trophies into ſhuffled duſt,
In which Antiquity was put in truſt,
To treaſure up the Aſhes, and the Fame
Of thoſe who had improv'd a Publick Name;
Your active Pen would like ſome vigorous charme
The rudeneſs of thoſe wilder hands diſarm;
And gaſping Records from two burials ſave,
In dark Oblivion and the gloomy Grave,
And buoy them up, though they were ſunk and run
To Ruine, and Dilapidation:
Since then an angry tempeſt did enſtate
Upon this Abby a deſtructive fate,
And ſavage hands did ſcatter and o'return
With ruinous violence that Royal Urn, (*clay,*
Which was the Exchequer, where King Stephen's
Until the Souls return, as hoſtage lay;

Poſterity

Posterity will find this Book alone
Shall to this Abby stand the nobleſt stone,
And as the laſting'ſt Evidence become
Both Braſs and Marble to King Stephens *Tomb:*
So that though time and teſtie zeal have rent
This Abby, and the Regal Monument
To moulder'd heaps, that they themſelves interr
Themſelves, and are their own rude ſepulcher;
This Book ſhall to theſe crumbled ruines be
Both Everlaſting Urn, and Obſequie.

Thomas Philipot.

To

To his Induſtrious Friend *Thomas Southouſe* Eſquire, on his *Monaſticon Faverſhamienſe.*

ARiſe brave Stephen, come and ſee how far
Thy acts of peace tranſcend thy acts of war;
Thy Chronicle's a narrow Hiſtory,
This is as large as was thy Charity:
That but recounts thy acts whilſt thou hadſt breath,
This ſhews how long thou liveſt after death,
And ſhews thee greater than when foes in field
To thy blood-thirſty Battle-Axe did yield.
And this (the more's the Author's Induſtry)
Through th' obſcure light of dim Antiquity.
The world's bright eye thus greateſt doth appear
When 'tis within the dusky Atmos Sphære.
To th' rule in Opticks now I'le ever ſtick,
[The object's biggeſt where the medium's thick]
Take an example for't; all things appear
Greater i'th' water, than i'th' aire when clear.
This is thy happy fate, Great Prince, 'tis ſo,
Thou'rt greater now cauſe, under water too;
They whoſe Phanatick zeal did prompt their hands
T' ore-throw thy Abby, and to graſp the lands.
Leaſt th' Earth ſhould prove too faithful, or the ſtones
Tell truth, to th' Channel they commit thy bones.
Had Rufus thee ſucceeded, ſurely he
Had took the Seaman's counſel not the Sea.
Spight of all this, and th' clouds of ages paſt,
The Author ſhews us clearly what thou waſt.
Beſt Pilates thus ſteer as direct a way
I'th' darkeſt night as in the cleareſt day.

Thou'ſt

Thou'ſt done ſo well (my friend) that were't my caſe
Now, as 'twas Stephen's *then, his ſteps I'de trace*
In ſome ſuch work: provided it might be
Deliver'd to poſterity by thee.

Rob. Platt *A. M.*

In opus, opere precium, Authore *Thomâ Southouſe*, Legum conſule, Amico ſuo meritiſſimo, Carmen Panegyricum, 1671.

HEylini *obtinuit multum Microcoſmus honorem*
Omnibus in plebis, Principis atque choris.
Multa & magna manet tibi Cambden *gratia, cujus*
Relliquias ſacras tota Britann'a *colit.*
Cantia *ſi taceat* Lambarti *encomia, cantat*
Per regnum celebris tranſitus ille ſuus.
Denique in Abbatiam ſufflat tuus Auſter (amice!)
Nomen cui infauſtæ fata dedêre Febris.
Fertur ab antiquis, Virtus poſt funera vivit;
Funera virtutum tu renovare ſtudes.
Nec minor eſt virtus peritura ac parta tueri.
Hic labor, hoc opus eſt, (vir venerande!) tuum
Hîc interponas vice (Lector!) ſeria ludis,
Et quæcunqae ſapis, ſacra, profana legis.
Sacra ſatis, nimis atque prophana horrendaq; furta,
Qualia vix ætas ulla nefanda tulit:
Hæc tu deploras; nec mirum. Talia fando
Quis, niſi ſit ſaxum, lumina ſicca gerat?

Quæ

Quæ si præscirent Sancti super astra colentes,
Ut Sanctium in terris, te celebrare velint.
Perge ergo Legum, pergas dignissime consul,
Te Mœcænatem Lexque, propheta colent.

Tho. Cater *M. A.*
Vicar. de Ospr.

Idem Amicus in opus idem.

SOme forraign Countries do desire to range,
When to their own they often times are strange;
And like some birds, their own nests they defile,
Whilst strangers with their Legends them beguile.
But thou (most worthy friend) such love dost bear
Unto thy native Soil, that it to rear
Out of the dust, with it thou dost begin,
And ransackst the Old Monuments therein:
Where we may see the Piety and Zeal
Of former Ages, which these times repeal;
And to out-face their fearful Sacrilege
Say, All of Superstition's but a pledge:
But be it so, yet they did know no better,
Then let us not corrupt the Text or Letter;
Which is the care of this our Author here,
If truth by antient Records may appear.
Then read it o're, and do not act the Mome,
But as it's fit give't thy Encomium.
Farewell then (honour'd Hero!) May thy dayes
Be crown'd with years, thy Book and Thee with (Bayes!

Sic vult vovétque Amicus tui devotissimus,
Tho. Cater.

Monaſticon Faverſhamienſe.

SO great was the eſtimate and regard precedent Ages had for Monaſtical and retired dwellers, that there was ſcarce any place ſo inconſiderable, but had one or more of theſe Religious Seminaries within its Precincts and Bounds. The Prayers of Monks being lookt upon as more effectual towards the procurement of proſperity and wealth to any place, than the tedious Homilies of any long winded ſecular Prieſt. Hence came it to paſſe (not to ſtray far from home) *Davington* had an houſe for Nuns; *Oſpringe* a *Major Dieu*; and *Faverſham* her Abby: of which three in this enſuing Treatiſe it

is my purpoſe to give the Reader an indifferent account. And firſt, I will begin with the Abby, it being (whilſt it had a being) of greateſt Honour and Eſteem.

It was Founded by the Piety and well meaning of King *Stephen*, in the year of our Lord, 1148, and was by him commended unto the Patronage of our bleſſed Saviour, and was commonly known by the name of the Monaſtry of St. *Saviour*'s of *Faverſham*.

The Charter of his Donation thereof take as followeth:

Stephanus Rex, &c. Archiepiſcopis, Epiſcopis &c. ſalutem. Sciatis Me pro ſalute animæ meæ, & Matildis *Reginæ uxoris meæ, &* Euſtachii *filii mei, & aliorum puerorum meorum & anteceſſorum meorum Regum* Angliæ, *dediſſe manerium meum de* Faverſham *ad fundandam Abbatiam unam ibidèm de ordine* Cluniacenſium, &c.

It

It ſeems by this Charter the King deſigned them for the order of *Cluniacks*, but afterwards (I know not for what reaſon) *Clarenbald* the firſt Abbot of this place procured his and his fellows releaſe from that Order, (a thing not uſual:) A Record of which Abſolution is kept in *Chriſt Church Cant.* to this effect.

Literæ abſolutoriæ Petri *Abbatis Cluniacenſium & B. Prioris ſanctæ* Mariæ de caritate, *quæ prædictum* Clarenbaldum *& Monachos qui ſecum venerant de* Bermondeſeiâ *ab omni ſubjectione & obedientiâ eccleſiæ Cluniacenſis abſolvebant, ne viz. eccleſia Cluniacenſis aliquid ſubjectionis in eundem* Clarenbaldum *ſive in ſucceſſores ſuos, vel aliquid Juris in monaſterio de* Faverſham *calumpniare poſſet in poſterum.* Somn. Cant.

Another to the ſame purpoſe out of the *Monaſticon Anglicanum* take as followeth:

——*Præterea abſolvo ipſum Priorem* Clarenbaldum *& præ-* Mon. Ang.

ſcriptos Monachos ab omni obedientiâ vel ſubjectione quam mihi ſeu Cluniacenſi *eccleſiæ ante hæc promiſerunt, & debebant, ſive eccleſiæ* de Caritate *ut Deo ſerviant apud* Faverſham, *ità* viz. *liberè, ut nec Abbas* Cluniacenſis, *vel Prior* de Caritate *præſumant quicquam in Abbatiâ de* Faverſham *calumpniari.*

Which abſolvatory letters of theſe Monks from the Order of *Clugni* never coming perchance to the eyes and ears of Mr. *Camden*, and others, may occaſion that pardonable miſtake of theirs in ſaying, King *Stephen* ſtocked this his Abby of *Faverſham* with the Monks of *Clugni*, whereas upon this their releaſe from that Order they betook themſelves unto the ancient rules of St. *Bennet*, of whom and his profeſſion expect more hereafter in this enſuing Diſcourſe.

Come we now from the Order unto the tenure by which this Abby was holden of the King----

And

And that was *per Baroniam*, for ſaith the Lord *Coke*, King *Stephen dedit Abbati & Monachis & ſucceſſoribus ſuis Manerium de* Faverſham *in Comitatu* Cantiæ *ſimul cum Hundredo* &c. *tenendum per Baroniam.* Inſt. 1. 97. A.

And this foundation was ſo pleaded *Canc. Paſch.* 30. *Ed.* 1. *coram Rege.*

And with this accords that great Luminary of Antiquity Mr. *Selden*, who ſaith, that this Abby antiently held *per Baroniam.* Titl. Hon. 730.

Upon which Authorities (although in divers Charters and Petitions I have found them term themſelves Tenants in *Frankalmoigne*, and ſo termed by others) I ſhall incline that they held this their Abby of the King *per Baroniam*; and ſo conſequently were in a capacity to ſit in the High Court of Parlament.

And here it is to be known by the way, that no Religious Houſe, but ſuch as was really of the

the Kings Foundation, could hold *per Baroniam*, and be capable of a voice in Parlament.

4 Inſt. 45. For the Abby of *Leiceſter*, which was founded by *Rob. Fitz Rob.* Earle of *Leiceſter* (notwithſtanding the Patronage thereof came to the Crown by the forfeiture of *Simon Mountford* Earle of *Leiceſter*) yet being but of a Subjects foundation it could not be holden *per Baroniam*, and therefore the Abbot thereof was not in a capacity to be called to Parlament. Whereupon the King granted, *quòd idem Abbas & ſucceſſores ſui de veniendo ad Parliament. & concilia noſtra vel hæredum noſtrorum quieti ſint & exonerati imperpetuùm.*

And this was after the ſaid Abbot had often *de facto* had place and voice in Parlament (*quod nota.*)

And here it is to be further known, that not all thoſe houſes neither which were of the Kings foundation

foundation did regularly hold by a Baronie, but only ſuch as were ſpecially founded to hold by that tenure.

For there were within this Realm of *England* one hundred and eighteen Monaſtries founded by the Kings of *England*, of all which there were not above twenty ſix or twenty ſeven Abbots and two Priors, that were Lords of Parlament, and had places and voices there: Amongſt which number this our Abbot of *Faverſham* is not to be ranked, ſaith the Lord *Coke*; for ſaith he, *Albeit this Abbot held by a Baronie, yet becauſe he was never (that I find) called by Writ thereunto, he never ſate in Parlament.* Inſt. 1. 9. a.

Whence is to be obſerved, that beſide the aforeſaid qualifications theſe Abbots had, *viz.*

1. To be of the Kings foundation.

2. To hold by a Baronie, which were requiſite as hath been ſaid to capacitate them to

ſit

ſit in Parlament, there ought to have been a Writ or Summons to have impowered them to have taken their place and honour in that High Court.

For the honour of Baronie being in them in right only of their Abbies, and not inherent in them as in men perſonally enobled, or as in ſuch as by reaſon of their ſpiritual dignity had neceſſarily a right to place and voice in Parlament, they could not appear there without a ſpecial Summons to enable them.

Inſt. 1.16. B. But otherwiſe I ſuppoſe it was in men perſonally enobled, for if a man had been once generally called to Parlament, he had gained a Fee-ſimple in the Barony without any words of inheritance, (*tamen quære.*) the modern creation of Barons by Patent being not then in uſe.

John Beauchamp le Holt being the firſt that was created Baron by Patent, who was created Baron of *Kederminſter*, 11. *R.* 2.

by

by Letters Patents of that King.

Well, but since it hath been said, that the Kings Writ anciently directed to an Abbot, was only so effectual as to make him a Baron of Parlament; I must expect it to be demanded of me, what preheminence those Tenants *per Baroniam* had of them which held in *Frankalmoigne*, towards the promoting them to the honour of Parlamentary Votes, since the Kings Writ (as appears) was essential to their there sitting, which *ad libitum Regis* might have been directed as well to the one as the other. Obj.

To the Answer and resolution whereof take the words of that learned Lawyer and Antiquary Sir *Ed. Coke*, who saith, *If the King by his Writ calleth a Knight or Esquire to be Lord in Parlament, he cannot refuse to serve that King* in communi illo concilio *for the good of his Countrey: But if the King had called an Abbot,* Inst. 4. 44, 45.

Abbot, or other Regular Prælate by Writ to Parlament, if he held not of the King per Baroniam, *he might refuſe to ſerve there, becauſe* quoad ſæcularia *he was* mortuus in Lege, *and therefore not capable to have place and voice in Parlament.*

But to proceed: whether theſe our Abbots of *Faverſham* were ever called by Writ to Parlament will be one queſtion and how they came to be diſcharged thereof another:

1. For the firſt, the Lord *Co* with ſubmiſſion be it ſpoken is miſtaken, when he ſaith, *Th Abbot was never called by Writ Parlament*: For the great *S den* affirmes, that theſe our A bots were called to twelve veral Parlaments in elder ti viz. in the Reigns of *Ed.* I *Ed.* 2.

Selden's tit. Hon.

2. As to the ſecond, whe they were againſt their omitted, or whether by pet they procured their own

c

charge, is not yet agreed upon: But after the Eighteenth year of *Ed.* 2. it is certain they were not called, which omission of them then (I am apt to conclude) was occasion'd either through their own modesty declining such secular employments, and troubles, as well knowing, *Quòd non convenit iis qui militant Deo, se implicare negotiis secularibus.* The Clergy in those Ages not being so much affected with idle pomp and secular vanity as afterwards they were found to be. Or else,

2. Through the infirmities and weaknesses that accompanies old age (sufficient essoines to have them excused) from taking long journeys to the hazard of their lives. Or,

3. And what is most likely, from the low ebb and shallowness of their estate at that time; which not long before had been drained almost dry by the exactions of the Court of *Rome*, as shall

ſhall be ſhewed more at large hereafter) and poverty (all know) is the moſt ſoveraigne antidote to diſpel the tympany of ambition.

And that theſe my conjectures may not altogether be thought improbable, I ſhall give you ſome inſtances, where ſome ſuch Religious foundations have refuſed theſe Parlamentary honours of their own accord, having by Petition or otherwiſe purchaſed their diſcharge:

As for Example, The *Prior* of *Coventry* played at in and out, and declined his appearance in Parlament.

Full. Ch. Hiſt.

So alſo the Abbot of St. *James* by *Northampton* may be ſaid to have ſitten but on hip in Parlament, he appears ſo in the twilight between a Baron and no Baron in ſummons thereunto: But afterwards the firſt was confirmed in his place, but the other on his earneſt requeſt obtained his diſcharge.

So

So alſo the Abbot of *Teuxberry* in *Gloceſter-ſhire*, notwithſtanding his great Revenue and Royal favorites, alwayes abſented himſelf from Parlaments.

To conclude once for all in the words of the ſame Author.

When Parlaments proved frequent, ſome Priories far from the place where they were ſummoned, the way long, the weather (eſpecially in winter) tedious, travelling on the way coſtly, living at London *chargeable; ſome Priories were ſo poor they could not, all ſo lazy and loving their eaſe, that they were loath to take long journeys, which made them afterwards deſire to be eaſed of their honourable, but troubleſome, attendance in Parlaments.*

And who knows but theſe our Abbots of *Faverſham*, being at forty or fifty miles diſtance from the Imperial City, might upon ſome of theſe reaſons procure their Writs of Eaſe to tarry at home, and like good husbands

provide for the well government of their covents and charge, eſpecially conſidering that moſt of thoſe who attained to the honour of being Abbots muſt needs be men well ſtricken with years, to whom long journeys could not be overpleaſant, and Honour it ſelf would prove but quarries to recall their Pious and Religious thoughts from Heaven unto the reſtleſs and vainglorious world, from which with Faſtings, Prayers and Pains they had before retired themſelves. But thus much concerning their qualifications—— Let us now take a proſpect of the perſons qualified, which from the erection of this Abby unto the diſſolution thereof amounted juſt to twenty, whoſe names take as followeth, *viz.*

The names of the Abbots.

1. *Clarenbald*, who was Prior of *Bermondſey* in *Southwark*, as ſhall be ſhewn hereafter, and tranſlated hither by King *Stephen*

phen to be Abbot of this Monaſtry.

2. *Guerricus*, alias *Swerricus*, alias *Werricus*.

3. *Algarus*: In this mans time there hapned a great Suit in the *Kings Bench*, about the Patronage of the Church of *Luddenham*, between the ſaid Abbot and *William de Inſula*, heir to Sir *William de Inſula* by *Mabilia* the daughter of *William de Luddenham*, which laſt *William* had given the Church of *Luddenham* to this Abby; as ſhall be ſhewn hereafter:

4. *Nicholas*
5. *Geoffrey*
6. *Peter*
7. *John*
8. *Peter* of *Rodmerſham*
9. *Peter*

10. *Oſwald*, ſirnamed *de Eſtry*, who in the third year of *Ed.* 1. was choſen Abbot by the Arch Biſhop of *Canterbury*, Ordinary of the place, in lieu of one *John Romenhale*, whom the

Monks had choſen to be Abbot, and diſliked by the Arch-biſhop, which will appear by the enſuing Certificate of the Biſhop's to the King, requeſting him to reſtore the temporalties to the ſaid *Oſwald*, which take as followeth,

Ex Archivis Turris.

Excellentiſſimo principi Domino Edvardo *dei gratâ illuſtri Regi* Angliæ, *Domino* Hiberniæ *& Duci* Aquitaniæ. *R. miſeratione divinâ* Cantuar. *Epiſcop. totius* Angliæ *primas ſalutem & per Regni temporalis adminiſtrationem vitam conſequi ſempeternam: Cum nos nuper electionem factam de fratre* Johanne *de* Romenhale *per Monachos Monaſterii de* Faverſham *in Abbatem electo, juſtitiâ exigente caſſaverimus & eiſdem Monaſterio & Monachis de fratre* Oſwaldo *de* Eſtry, *cui aſſenſum Regium ad noſtram inſtantiam devotè adhibuiſtis providerimus. Excellentiam veſtram attentè rogamus, quatenus præfato* Oſwaldo *in Abbatem per nos confirmato adminiſtrationem bonorum*

rum temporalium & poſſeſſionum Monaſterii antedicti, juxta Regni veſtri conſuetudinem concedere dignemini in hâc parte. Dat. apud Lambeth, 8 *Idûs Nov. Anno Dom.* 1275. *conſecrationis noſtræ Anno tertio.*

Hence may be noted the exorbitant power of the Arch-biſhop in thoſe times in intrenching thus upon a Royal foundation, which by its prerogative and right ſhould have been exempted from his inſpection and juriſdiction; as being under the viſitation only of the Chancellor, becauſe of a King's foundation.

11. *Clement*
12. *John*
13. *John*
14. *John*
15. *William*
16. *Robert*
17. *Robert*
18. *John*

} Abbots.

19. *Walter* Sirnamed *Goore*, who reſigned his government of this Abby into the hands of the

Arch-biſhop of his own accord, 6. *Sept. Anno* 14. *H.* 7.

20. *John* ſirnamed *Caſtlock alias Shepey*, who ſucceeded him, and was the twentieth and laſt Abbot of the Monaſtry of St. *Saviours* of *Faverſham*; being Abbot at the time of the diſſolution of the Abby, as ſhall be ſhewn hereafter.

He had the King's Writ to reſtore his temporalties directed unto him, 10. *Feb.* 14. *H.* 7. which becauſe it doth evidence unto us the Kings Prerogative and Power in Eccleſiaſtical affairs in thoſe elder times, when the Biſhop of *Rome*'s intereſt was ſo much advanced, I think not impertinēt to inſert here *verbatim*.

Leig. Book of this Abby. *Penes G. Sond militem.*

Henr. Dei gratiâ Rex Angliæ & Franciæ & *Dominus* Hiberniæ, *Omnibus ad quos præſentes literæ pervenerint ſalutem. Sciatis quòd nos certis de cauſis nos ſpecialiter moventibus de gratiâ noſtrâ ſpeciali ac de certâ ſcientiâ & mero motû*

motû noſtris conceſſimus venerabili patri in Chriſto Johanni *nunc Abbati Monaſterii* Sancti ſalvator. *de* Faverſham *in comitatû* Cantiæ, *quod quidèm Monaſterium de fundatione inclytorum progenitor' noſtrorum quondam Regum* Angliæ, *& noſtro patronatu exiſtit, omnia & omnimodos exitus, proficua, firmas, redditus, Reventiones, & emolumenta omnium & ſingulorum domorum, maneriorum, terrarum, tenementorum, poſſeſſionum & hæreditatum, ac omnium aliorum temporalium quorumcunque, quæ ſunt temporalia Monaſterii prædicti, ac eidem Monaſterio quovis modo pertinent' ſive ſpectant' & quæ ad manus noſtras ſeu in manibus noſtris ratione ultimæ vacationis Monaſterii illius per liberam & ſpontaneam reſignationem* Walteri Goore *nuper Abbatis Monaſterii illius,* viz. *ſexto die* Sept. *ultimò præterit' in manus reverendiſſimi in Chriſto patris* Johannis *tituli* Anaſtacii *ſacroſanctæ*

Romanæ Eccleſiæ presbyteri Cardinalis & Apoſtolicæ ſedis legati, ac Cantuar' Archiep' loci illius Ordinarii devenerunt aut exiſterunt jure prærogativæ noſtræ Regiæ, à dicto tempore reſignationis præd' Walteri *nuper Abbatis Monaſterii præd' huc uſque pervenient' creſcent' ſive emergent' Habend' & percipiend' omnia & ſingula præd' exitus, proficua, firmas, redditus, reventiones & emolumenta præd' omnium & ſingulorum præmiſſorum quæ nobis ratione ultimæ vacationis præd' quoquomodo pertinerent aut ſpectarent præfato nunc Abbati tam per manus ſuas & miniſtrorum ſuorum proprias quàm per manus omnium & ſingulorum nunc & nuper Eſchaetorum noſtrorum in ſingulis comitat' in quibus præmiſſa ſeu aliquid præmiſſor' ſeperatim exiſtunt, ac per manus omnium & ſingulorum receptorum, firmariorum, tenentium, occupatorum, aut miniſtr' temporal' præd' ſeu alicujus inde parcellæ*

adeò

adeò plenè & integrè ac licitè & impunè prout nos præmiſſa ſeu aliquam partem præmiſſorum dicto tempore vacation' Monaſterii præd' habercmus ſi præſens conceſſio noſtra eidem nunc Abbati indè fact' non fuiſſet abſque impetitione ſeu perturbatione noſtri ſeu hæredum noſtrorum, Juſticiar', Baronum de Scaccario noſtro, Vicecomitum, Eſchaetorum ſeu aliorum officiar' aut miniſtr' noſtr' quorumcunque, & abſque compoto reſponſo ſeu aliquo alio onere nobis aut hæredibus noſtris pro præmiſſis ſeu aliquo præmiſſorum reddendo ſolvendo ſeu faciendo quovis modo. Et ulterius de uberiori noſtrâ gratiâ perdonâmus, remiſimus, relaxavimus ac per præſentes perdonamus remittimus & relaxamus eidem Johanni nunc Abbati omnimodos intruſiones & ingreſſus in præd' temporalia Monaſterii præd' per ſe vel aliquem nupèr Abbatum prædeceſſorum ſuorum per ſeu poſt mortem aut reſignationem

nationem, ceſſionem vel depoſitionem alicujus nupèr Abbatis Monaſterii illius predeceſſorum ſuorum abſque debitâ proſecutione, liberatione, acceptatione, reſtitutione aut traditione eorundem extra manum Regiam ante præſentem diem qualitercunque fact' habit' attempt' ſine licentiâ Regiâ. Ac omnimodas punitiones, executiones & demanda quæ verſus ipſum Abbatem habemus ſeu habere poterimus ullo modo in futurum, eò quòd expreſſa mentio de certitudine exituum, proficuorum, firmarum, reddituum, reventionum & emolumentorum præd' per nos eidem nunc Abbati per præſentes conceſſor' in præſentibus fact' non exiſtit, aut aliquo ſtatuto, actu, ordinatione ſeu reſtrictione ante hæc tempora fact', edit', ordinat' ſive provis' aut aliquâ cauſâ, re ſeu materiâ quacunque in aliquo non obſtante. In cujus rei teſtimonium has literas noſtras fieri fecimus patentes.

Teſte meipſo apud Weſtm. 17. *die*

die Feb. *Anno Regni noſtri* 15.

Having now ſo far entred the Abby as to be acquainted with the Abbots thereof, let us a little reflect on the Monks likewiſe and enquire into their number, order, and habits.

1. Then for their number. It was Apoſtolical, they being twelve beſides the Abbot, a number in which the Sacred Writ ſeems much to be delighted For to paſs by the Apoſtles, the Tribes of *Iſrael* were twelve, the Patriarchs were twelve, and *Solomon*'s Officers were twelve, 1 *Kings* 4. 7.

So here I find King *Stephen*, when he had finiſhed this his Abby, to repleate and ſtock it with Religious Votaries, tranſplants from the Monaſtry of *Bermondſey* in *Southwark* the Prior thereof named *Clarenbald* and twelve other Monks all of that Priory, and placeth them here, it being uſual in thoſe dayes for one

one Religious Houſe to beget another.

A teſtimony of the truth whereof will appear by the enſuing Charter.

Monaſt. Ang. *Thomæ Dei gratiâ Cantuar' Archiep' frater* Petrus *fratrum Cluniacenſium indignus miniſter ſalutem & dilectionem in Domino. Notum volumus fieri veſtræ dilectioni, quòd nos dedimus & conceſſimus* Stephano *Regi Angliæ &* Matildi *uxori ejus Reginæ* Clarenbaldum *qui fuit Prior Monachorum de Bermunſeiâ & cum eo* 12. *Monachos ejuſdem cœnobii ad conſtruendam Abbatiam ſuam quam apud* Faverſham *fundare cœperunt.*

Thus much then for their number; come we next to enquire of their Order,

2. Which was that of St. *Benet's*, an Order ſo appropriated to this our Realm, that as one ſaith, *All the Abbies of* England *before the time of King* William *the Conquerour, and ſometime after*

after conſiſted of this Order. They were called *Benedictines* from St. *Bennet* or *Benedict* an *Italian*, firſt Father and Founder of that Order, of whom and his Monks I ſhall have occaſion to enlarge hereafter.

3. Their habits were black, and they were ſworn to chaſtity, poverty, and obedience to their Superiours, three excellent vertues, which that they might the more faithfully obſerve and eaſier keep——they renounced the debauched world and all its alluring vanities, and buried themſelves alive in a gloomy repoſitory, converſing with iron bars and flinty walls, before the effeminate and corrupted ſecular people.

——*Fuit hæc ſapientia quondam*
Publica privatis ſecernere, ſacra
prophanis.

In which their ſolitude and apartement, they ſeem'd like ſtars

ſtars of the firſt magnitude, by the rayes of whoſe devotion the ignorant vulgar found oftimes the way to Heaven.

To be ſhort, ſuch was their ſeverity to themſelves, their kindneſs to their friends, and laſtly, which exceeds all, their fervency in their Religion to their God, that all the world admir'd them: and Monks were in thoſe elder times of ſo ſacred eſteem, that from the Throne to the Gentleman there was ſcarce any family ſo irreligious, but one or other of their Iſſue was devoted to the Cloyſters.

Let us next caſt our eye upon the rules and preſcripts by which they order'd their lives and converſations, which was of two ſorts:——

1. The Rules for their devotion:

2. Their Rules of morality: Both which we ſhall find exceedingly ſevere and rigid; ſuch as, I fear, the looſer gallants of our age,

age would forfeit Heaven ſooner than obſerve.

1. Then for their Rules of devotion: They ſerved God ſeven times a day;

1. At Cock-cowing; becauſe the Pſalmiſt ſaith, *At midnight will I praiſe the Lord*; and *moſt conceive* (ſaith my author) *that our Saviour roſe from the dead at that time.*

2. Matutine: At the firſt hour, or ſix of the clock, when the Jewiſh morning ſacrifice was offer'd, and at what time Chriſt's Reſurrection was by Angels firſt notified to the women.

3. At the third hour, or nine of the clock before noon, when according to St. *Mark*, Chriſt was condemned and ſcourged by *Pilate*.

4. At the ſixth hour, or twelve of the clock, at high noon, when Chriſt was crucified and darkneſs was over the whole earth.

5. At the ninth hour, or three of the clock in the afternoon, when

when Chriſt gave up the Ghoſt, which was an hour of publick prayer in the Temple, and privately in his cloſet with *Cornelius.*

6. Veſpertine, at the twelfth hour, or ſix of the clock in the afternoon, when the evening ſacrifice was offered in the Temple and when Chriſt is ſuppoſed taken down from the Croſs.

7. At ſeven of the clock at night, (or the firſt hour beginning the nocturnal twelve)--when Chriſt's agonie was conceived to begin.

Thus much for their devotion; let us next take a proſpect of their moral way of living, and we ſhall ſee them out-do the Stoicks for ſtrictneſs of behaviour; which take as followeth:

1. No Monk was to go alone but alwayes two together, that ſo they might have both *teſtem honeſtatis & monitorem pietatis*; and this was done in ſome imitation of Chriſt's ſending his Diſciples to preach two and two before

fore his face, that ſo they might alternately eaſe one another.

2. They were to faſt on Wedneſdayes and Frydayes till three a clock (except between Eaſter and Whitſunday.)

3. In Lent, they were to faſt till ſix a clock at night.

4. No Monk was to ſpeak a word in the Refectory or Hall when they were at their meals.

5. They were to liſten to the Lecturer reading Scripture to them whilſt they fed themſelves.

6. The completory was to be ſung ſolemnly about ſeven at night: It was called Completory, becauſe it completed the duties of the day. This ſervice was concluded with that verſicle of the Pſalmiſt, *Set a watch O Lord before my mouth, and keep the door of my lips.*

7. None was to ſpeak a word after the Completory ended: but to haſten to their beds.

This ſilence, ſaith my author,

was ſo ſtrictly obſerved by ſome that they would not ſpeak though aſſailed by thieves, to make diſcovery in their offence.

8. The Monks were to ſleep together in beds by themſelves, if poſſible in one room (called the dormitory.)

9. They were to ſleep in their clothes girt with girdles.

10. The youth was not to lie by themſelves but mingled with their Seniors, that their gravity might awe them into good behaviour.

11. The Infants incapable of excommunication were to be corrected with rods: ſuch as were under the age of fifteen were accounted infants.

12. The offenders in ſmall faults, whereof the Abbot was ſole Judge were to be only ſequeſtred from the table——

Small faults] as coming after grace to dinner, breaking, though caſually, the earthen Ewer wherein they waſht their hands,

hands, being out of tune in ſetting the Pſalms, taking any by the hand (as a Preface forſooth to wantonneſs,) receiving letters from, or talking with a friend without leave from the Abbot, &c.

From the Table] Such were to eat by themſelves and three hours after the reſt, until they had made ſatisfaction.

13. The offenders in greater faults, *viz.* Theft, Adultery &c. to be ſuſpended from the table and prayers.

14. None was to converſe with any excommunicate perſon under the pain of excommunication.

15. Incorrigible offenders were to be expelled the Monaſtry.

16. An expelled brother being readmitted on promiſe of his amendment was to be ſet laſt in order, loſing his former Seniority.

Note, that whoſoever willing-

ly quitted the Covent three times, or was thrice caſt out for his miſdemeanours might not any more be received.

17. The bed of every Monk was to have a matt, blanket, rugg and pillow; no down, feathers nor flock uſed by them, nor no linnen worn by their bodies.

18. The Abbot was to be choſen by the merits of his life and learning.

19. He was never to dine alone, and when gueſts were wanting, he was to call ſome brethren unto his table, ſuch as were relieved by his hoſpitality were by canonical Criticks ſected into four ranks, *viz.*

1. *Convivæ* [gueſts,] living near the City where the Covent ſtood.

2. *Hoſpites*] coming from diſtant places yet ſtill of the ſame County.

3. *Peregrini*] Pilgrims of another nation, and generally travelling for devotion.

4. *Mendici*

4. *Mendici* [Beggars,] who received their almes at the gate.

Thus have we paſſed over moſt of the Rules preſcribed for the *Benedictine* Monks. I will onely add one more which hath been hitherto omitted, *viz.* That the Monks of this Order by their Founders rule were to eat nothing but fiſh except upon ſome ſpecial occaſion; which puts me in mind of a remarkable ſtory concerning two Monks of this Order, who being taken captives by ſome *Turkiſh* Pirats, were by them proſtituted unto the pride and ſcorn of the Imperious *Sultan*, who finding them by their habits to be men in Orders, and learning from them that they owned the rules of St. *Bennet*, He began to be much inquiſitive concerning the rules of their profeſſion, and eſpecially concerning their diet, demanding of them whether the ſeverity of their profeſſion would permit them to drink wine and eat fleſh?

Polychron. lib. 5. fol. 203.

who modeſtly reply'd, that ſomewhat of wine by their rules they were allowed to drink and to eat fiſh---- but from fleſh (except upon ſome eminent occaſion) they were totally debarred.

The ſubtle *Mahometan* hearing this preſently commanded, that in their confinement they ſhould have two fair women to attend them, and that their fare ſhould be inlarged: debarring them from fiſh and wine their uſual diet, he orders them plenty of fleſh and water:--- The innocent Fathers whoſe ſublimer thoughts were fix't on contemplations far above the frailty of a womans beauty, fall to their unuſual fare like men that had good appetites, and pledge themſelves with thoſe cold draughts, with as great content as doth the Epicure with his *Chian* wines, not minding thoſe fair baits that had been laid to entrap them with (I mean the women;) which when the inquiſitive *Sultan* underſtood,

ſtood, he chang'd their fare, and the next day aſſigns them fiſh and wine their Founders diet, and the ſame waiters to attend their motion. They eat and drink ſuſpecting no deſign; their hearts grow merry and their bellies full, when loe the treacherous wine ſteals to their ſober brains, attaques their reaſon, and their giddy heads grow light as are the women they admire. Their eyes once ſhut to vanity are now like caſements open'd wide to let in luſt. Their tongues which once could charm heavens ears are now tuning amours to pleaſe a ſilly woman. To be ſhort, they that had been us'd to faſt and pray, to penance, and all the hardneſs of a Chriſtian life, do now moſt tamely and cheaply degenerate into ſoftneſs and effeminacy, and are betray'd into the embraces of thoſe ſinful women.

So have I ſeen a ſtubborn flint at firſt reſiſt the fury of an ham-

mers ſtrokes, reſcuing it ſelf unbroken & intire in ſpight of the oppoſers malice; when being remov'd unto ſome ſofter place, laid on ſome downy bed or eaſie cuſhion, it hath fallen in pieces with leſs violence and more eaſe.

The Antichriſtian Prince is glad to ſee them ſo diſguiſed, and takes occaſion to upbraid their Saint, that gave them ſuch wild rules. Commending much the wiſdom of their *Mahomet*, who reſtrain'd them not from fleſh, that hurts not mind nor body, but forbids them drinking Wine, which wrongs the body and beſots the underſtanding, making the wiſeſt perſon act a ſcene of folly, and become an appellative of ſcorn and laughter to his more ſober beholders. An excellent leſſon for us all to obſerve, although an heathen ſpake it.

Of the original of Monks, *&c.*

The occaſion of this their retirement

tirement and ſolitude was not originally voluntary but rather compulſive and forced.

For when perſecution like a ravenous Eagle or rather Harpy had expanded her talons, and menaced deſtruction and imminent ruine to ſuch as owned Chriſtianity; then did good and devout Chriſtians, that they might ſerve God with more ſafety and greater ſecurity, withdraw themſelves from the ſight though not the malice of their perſecutors, betaking themſelves unto the wilderneſs and cloſer deſarts, expecting rocks and ſtocks, and the wild forragers of the woods more merciful than cruel man.

So have I ſeen united Covies range a field together gleaning the ſhatterings of the pregnant ſhocks, when loe a treacherous Spaniel hath betray'd their ſociable haunts, and rudely broke in upon their cloſe retirements; then have the affrighted birds broke

broke up their leagues, and ſeverally ſought out new fields for ſuccour.

So did our Primitive Chriſtians at firſt cohabit and enjoy the pleaſures of a ſociable and friendly life, exchanging love and friendſhip one with th' other; no wild conceit t' immure themſelves alive, and court calamities had yet poſſeſt their ſober brains: Nor was there ſo much ſanctity ſuppos'd in a blind cell, or an affected cowle as ſince there is: But afterward, when perſecution had broke in, and diſturbed their friendly leagues, for preſervation of their lives and religion they unwillingly brake off ſocieties and fled unto the deſarts to expect ſecurity: But when the beams of Chriſtianity had diſpelled thoſe clouds of Paganiſme, and the ſtorms of perſecution ceaſed ——— Then did they return unto their old imployments forſaking the deſarts, and the wild ambuſcadoes

buſcadoes of the mountains, trading together midſt their cities plenty, improving both their friendſhip and their wealth.

But as in all ages of the world there were ſeveral and different conſtitutions of men, ſome of a more jovial and ſociable nature affecting ſociety and company, others of a more Saturnine and melancholly diſpoſition, delighted with ſolitarineſs and privacy of life: ſo even then (when one would think their late conſtrained exile ſhould have endear'd them to company) there were ſome whom a melancholly and ſullen diſpoſition had ſo far poſſeſt, that even in thoſe intervals and times of peace, they would eſtrange and perſecute themſelves.

The number of which Separatiſts grew in a ſmall time into exceſs, owning no ſuperiority but their own wills, nor no rules but ſuch as every one ſhould preſcribe himſelf.

1. The

St. *Baſil.* 1. The firſt that regulated them, and ſubjected them to rules was St. *Baſil* a Prieſt in *Cæſarea* the chief City of *Cappadocia*, in the year of grace 300. who built a ſpacious Monaſtry in *Armenia*, containing above 3000 Monks. This St. *Baſil* is reputed to be the firſt builder of Monaſtries.

St. *Auſtin.* 2. Next to him St. *Auſtin* inſtituted a Religious Order. He was born in the Caſtle of *Tegaſt* in *Carthage* about the year of our Redemption 358. His Fathers name was *Patricius*, his Mothers *Monica*, by whoſe intreaties, and the Sermons of St. *Ambroſe*, he was drawn from the errours of the *Manichees*. He died of a feaver at *Hippo*, when he had ſitten forty years in that Biſhoprick, being ſeventy ſix years of age, on the fifth of the Kalends of *September*, leaving to poſterity two hundred and thirty books of his own writing.

3. About

3. About forty years after the death of St. *Auſtin*, St. *Benedict*, *alias* St. *Bennet* appeared to the world, who is accounted the Patriarch and Father of all the Monks in *Europe*. He was born in *Umbria*, a Region in *Italy*, of the Noble Family of *Regards*; his Fathers name was *Propre*, his Mothers *Abundantia*. He was ſent to *Rome* at the age of ten years to learn the liberal Arts: but being weary of the tumults and war during the Reign of *Juſtinian* the Emperour, he retired himſelf from thence into a deſart near *Sublack*, a town ſome forty miles from *Rome*, where the fame of his integrity and holineſs of life drew people from all parts to ſee him. He gathered the Monks of *Italy* together, gave them a rule in writing, cauſed them to be called *Benedictines* or Monks of St. *Bennet*, and lived till he had ſeen twelve Monaſtries filled with them. After his death this Order grew ſo

St. *Bennet.*

ſo popular, that there have been of it twenty nine Popes, 200 Cardinals, 1603 Archbiſhops, 4000 Biſhops, and 50000 canonized Saints. Their habit is a looſe gown of black reaching down to the ground with an hood of the ſame, an under garment of white woollen, and boots on their legs.

St. *Franc.* 4. The fourth and laſt that preſcribed Orders was St. *Francis* of *Aſſis* in the Dutchy of *Spoleto*. He was bred a Merchant, but preferring the gain of ſouls before that of worldly goods, he betook himſelf unto the ſtudy and profeſſion of Divinity, going himſelf barefoot, and behaving himſelf very penitently; whereupon great ſtore of Diſciples followed him, to whom he preſcribed a rule by which they are bound to profeſs abſolute beggery, and are not permitted to carry any money about them, or more victuals than will ſerve at preſent themſelves and brethren.

St.

St. *Francis* to intimate their humility, ordained them to be called *Minors*; but they are generally called *Franciſcans* by the name of their Father.

Thus have I markt out the four chiefeſt trees of this ſacred grove, as for the many cions and under-branches that are ſprung from hence, they are too numerous for this ſmall garden ſpot to contain, wherefore let what hath been ſaid already of this matter ſuffice.

Come we next to ſurvey the revenue that ſupported this our Abby.

Of the antient and modern eſtate of the Abby of Faverſham *and its Benefactors.*

In the third year of *Ed.* 1. I find this Cloyſter to be but in a very low and mean condition, (they being greatly indebted to Merchants and others by their expences at *Rome*, and Papal exactions)

exactions) in ſo much that the King by his Soveraign Eccleſiaſtical Authority (to preſerve them and their houſe from ruine) took them and their Lands, Monies and goods into his ſpecial protection, and committed them to the management of certain perſons for diſcharge of their debts and neceſſary ſupport by this enſuing Patent.

Ex Archivis Turris. *Rex omnibus Ballivis & fidelibus ſuis ad quos &c. Salutem. Cùm dilecti nobis in Chriſto Abbas & conventus de* Faverſham *Mercatoribus & aliis creditoribus ſuis in diverſis debitis multimodis & immenſis teneantur, ad quorum ſolutionem facultates ejuſdem domûs per magni temporis ſpatium ſufficere non poſſent abſq; diſperſione conventûs præd' vel feodalium ſuorum dilapidatione ſeu fortè illius domûs ſubverſione totali quod nollemus. Nos imbecillitati ſtatûs ipſorum compatientes ne hujuſmodi diſcriminis*

ant

aut depreſſionis periculum ipſis videatur imminere, Domum illam cum terris, redditibus, poſſeſſionibus ac rebus aliis ad eam pertinentibus cepimus in protectionem & defenſionem noſtram ſpecialem, & eam cum omnibus pertinentiis ſuis commiſſimus dilectis & fidelibus noſtris Fulconi Peyforer *& magiſtro* Hamoni Doges *cuſtodiend' quamdiù nobis placuerit, ita quòd omnes exitus redditus & proventus terrarum reddituum & poſſeſſionum præd' domûs, ſalvâ rationabili ſuſtentatione Abbatis et conventûs ejuſdem loci, ad exonerationem debitorum ſuorum et relevationem aliorum defectuum ejuſdem domûs reſervetur et eiſdem exonerationi et relevationi per viſum aliquorum de diſcretioribus domûs ejuſdem per adjutorium et concilium dictorum* Fulconis *et* Hamonis *prout meliùs fieri poterit, applicentur. Nec volumus quòd aliquis Vicecomes, aut Ballivus, aut miniſter noſter, aut alius quicunque in dicto*

domo, aut grangiis ad eam ſpectantibus dùm in cuſtodiâ præfatorum Fulconis *et* Hamonis *ſint, hoſpitetur ſine ipſorum licentiâ ſpeciali. In cujus* &c. *Teſte Rege apud* Merrival. 17. Aug.

Thus much of their antient Eſtate and condition; come we now a little nearer home unto the reign of *H.* 7. who requiring a benevolence from the Clergy, ſent his Letters to the Abbies, and other Religious houſes in this Realm, amongſt which to this our Abby, requiring one hundred pounds of them, who return'd this enſuing letter unto the Council-table, excuſing themſelves by reaſon of divers former Contributions made to King *Richard* lately, which being not repaid did incapacitate them at preſent to furniſh his Majeſty with any conſiderable ſum of money.

Litera

Literæ miſſæ ad conſilium Regis.

Seneriſſimi & venerabiles Domini! Veſtra ſcire dignetur generoſa celſitudo quòd literas victorioſiſſimi Principis & Domini Henrici *dei gratia* Angliæ & Franciæ *& Domini* Hiberniæ *recepi* 13. *die* Julii *ultimo elaſpo per quendam ſervientem ejuſdem Domini noſtri Regis ad arma. Sed quia noviſſimis temporibus Domini* Richardi *nupèr Regis* Angliæ *penes eundem crebris decimarum & aliarum rerum ſolutionibus inſuper multimodis & gravibus contributionibus, nec non mutuis pecuniarum præſtationibus in toto vel in parte mihi hucuſque nullatenus ſolutis ultra vires fatigatus, & quaſi ad extremam inopiam devolutus ad ſubſidium gratioſæ expeditionis Domini noſtri Regis juxta tenorem dictarum venerabilium literarum ſuarum de ſumma centum librarum non poſſum prout teneo*

Leig. book Penes G. Sonds militem Balnei.

& ſi mihi ſuppetierint facultates ad præſens maturiùs providere veſtræ metuendæ Domini

devotè ſupplico ut unà cum præmiſſis meis incommodis & gravaminibus ad exiguas & paucas Monaſterii mihi commiſſi poſſeſſiones propitium veſtræ pietatis intuitum dirigentes quamvis modò dictam ſummam vel aliam quamcunque notabilem non promittam dignem' more Domini habere excuſatum & aliàs Deo opitulante cùm favor pinguioris fortunæ me affluentiùs reſpexit ad obſequii Domini noſtri Regis me cum omnibus bonis meis ſecundùm benè placitum ejus cum omni famulatû habebitis et paratum ſub Regimine ſancti ſpiritûs in omni proſperitate valeat et floreat veſtra gratioſa ſublimitas per tempora longiora. Scriptum apud Faverſham, &c.

But this would ſcarce ſerve their turns; for *Richard Fox* then Biſhop of *Wincheſter* aſ-

ſembling

ſembling the Clergy before him, exhorted them to be liberal in their contributions : But the Clergy (ſaith Sir *Richard Baker*) being of two ſorts rich and poor, made each of them ſeveral excuſes. The rich, and ſuch as had great livings ſaid they were at great charges in keeping hoſpitality, and maintaining their families, and therefore deſired to be ſpared; the poorer ſort alledged that their means was ſmall, and ſcarce able to find them neceſſaries, and therefore deſired to be forborn : But the Biſhop anſwered them both with a pretty Dilemma, ſaying to the Rich, It is true you live at great charges in Hoſpitality, in Apparel, and other demonſtrations of your wealth, and ſeeing you have ſtore to ſpend in that Order, there is no reaſon but for your Prince his ſervice, you ſhould do it much more, and therefore you muſt pay : To the poorer ſort he ſaid, though your

Bakers Chron. Reign of *Hen.* 7.

livings be ſmall, yet your felicity is great, and you ſpend not in houſe-keeping and apparel as others do, therefore be content, you ſhall pay.

Leig. Book. In the 14. year of this Kings Reign, I find the whole eſtate of this Abby caſt up, which then amounted to two hundred fifty three pounds ſixteen ſhillings and ten pence halfpenny *per Annum*, the particulars whereof take as followeth:

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
1. The Parſonage of *Boughton* by the year	36	00	0
2. The Parſonage of *Hernehill*, which is *Capella annexa* to *Boughton*, by the year	10	00	0
3. The Parſonage of *Preſton per annum*	13	06	8
4. The penſions of the Churches of *Luddenham* and *Newnham*	05	00	0

5. The

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
5. The principal Mannor of *Faverſham*, with the Demean lands *per annum*	42	11	8
6. The rent of *Upland per an.*	52	10	0
7. The cuſtom belonging to the ſaid Mannor *per. an.* 22. acres and an half			
8. The Rent in the town of *Faverſham*	20	0	3
9. The Farm of the ſaid town *per an.*	06	16	4
10. The Farm of *Caſtert*, and great *Berton* by the year	00	12	8
11. The Farm and Rent at *Frythenden*	02	16	3
12. The Farm in *Harty per an.*	08	06	8
13. The Farm of *Negdon*	08	00	0
14. The Farm of *Lamberts* land	11	00	0
15. The Mannor of *Kingſnoth*	05	06	8

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
16. The Farm of *Woodleeſe* there	00	10	0
17. The Farm of land called *Horſe-hops*	00	13	4
18. The Farm of *Woodleeſe* in the *Bleane*	00	11	0
19. The Farm of *Bridewell* in *London*	04	00	0
20. The Farm of the Mannor of *Bendiſh per annum*	24	00	0
21. The Farm of *Snowtwerry*	00	02	8

Concerning theſe Weares I find a Petition preferr'd to King *Edward* the third, by the Abbot and Covent of *Faverſham*, deſiring that the King would abate his Rent, which the Abbot was to pay for theſe Weares, for that the ſaid Weares were deſtroy'd by the rage and tempeſt of the Sea; which for the lovers of Antiquity I preſent in the ſelf ſame language it was written.

Petition

Petition.

A noſtre Signeor le Roy et a ſon counſel prie l' Abbe del Eſcliſe de Seint Saveour de Faverſham, *et le Covent de meſmes le luy ſes Chaplains que come le dit Abbe et ces predeceſſeurs aient tenus du temps le Roy Joan tanques en ca la pecherie de* Middleton *ceo eſt a ſaviour le gors appellez ſeſalter rendrant per an al dit Roy* 20. s. *a tenir al dit Abbe et ces ſucceſſors rendrants meſme le farme avant dit. Za quele pecherie enſemblement our les gors ia percretine grand refoule et tempeſte de mer de tout en tout ſont deſtrues per touts jours el la dit pecherie perdur de quel la rents ne poet eſte levie ne nul parcel de ycel. Quil pleaſe a noſtre Signeor le Roy avoir regard de ceo que le dit Abbe ne ſes predeceſſors unques ne furent charges de la dit rent forſque ſolement de la pecherie ſus dit ſi defeate que des ore*

Rylys plac. Parlament 646.

ore ſoient quittes de cele demande et que ceſſante la cauſe ceſſe le effect.

Upon which Petition it was thus indorſed.

Dorſo.

Soit ceſte Petition mande devant Troſ. et Barons del Eſcheker et mande a eux que oye le pleynt le dit Abbe face droit.

Theſe Weares it ſeems were again repaired and demiſed to ſeveral perſons in the 15th year of *H.* 8. at a greater Rent than they are before valued at.

The names of the Tenants that Farm'd them, and their particular Rents I find written with the Abbots own hand in the Leiger Book of the Abby as follows.

1. *Simon Hopkin* payeth *per Annum*	00 03 4
2. *John Swanton p. a.*	00 03 4
3. *Richard Hawe p. a.*	00 03 4
4. *John Merſh p. an.*	00 03 4

5. *John*

	l.	s.	d.
5. *John Northwood* } *per an.*	00	03	4
6. *Will. Savyr p. a.*	00	03	4
	01	00	0

22. The Farm of *Lodgemark per annum* yielded	01	13	4
23. The Farm of *Prieſtfield per annum*	01	13	4

Summa Totalis---

The names of divers houſes in the town of Faverſham *that were rented of the Abby.*

1. The great houſe near the Abby gate eaſtward, rented at	03	00	0

This is the Scene where that fatal tragedy was really acted by *Alice Ardern* and her wicked accomplices upon the body of her Husband Mr. *Thomas Ardern* (ſometimes Major of this town) *Feb.* 15. being Sunday 1550. *Anno* 4 *Ed.* 6.

2. Two

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
2. Two houſes annexed, now made into one	00	16	8
3. The houſe on the weſt ſide of the Abby gate, where the Steward now dwelleth, paid *per an.*	01	06	8

An houſe conveniently ſuitable to his employment, for the Court was kept at the Abby gate, and the ſtreet now called *Abby-ſtreet*, was from thence called *Court-ſtreet*. In this houſe I my ſelf now dwell.

4. The tenement next to the ſaid houſe on the weſt ſide of the ſtreet			
5. Another tenement near to it where the ſub-porter dwelled	00	13	4

This I take to be the houſe wherein *Daniel* the ſea-man now dwelleth.

6. An-

	l.	*s.*	*d.*	
6. Another houſe near to that, by the yearly Rent of	01	00	0	
7. The houſe thereunto adjoyning	00	10	0	
8. A tenement on the north ſide of the Crown.	00	04	2	*Redditus ad menſam Abbatis.*

Which crown I take to have been in the *Weſt-ſtreet*, now in the poſſeſſion of *Stephen Blanket* and *Joſeph Edwards*, which I am informed in antient writings was known by the name of the Crown.

9. A Bakehouſe next *Gorewell-lane*;	00	01	0	

A lane ſo called in the *Weſt-ſtreet.*

10. A tenement at *Snowre-hill.*	00	00	6	

The hill near the ſtone bridge in the *Weſt-ſtreet* ſo called.

11. A brew-houſe near the Gaol;	00	00	6	

This houſe muſt be ſomewhere

l. s. d.

where in *Tamers-ſtreet*, for at *Kings-mill* the Abbots Gaol was holden

12. A tenement ſometime *Garrard's*. } 00 00 6

This was in the *North-ſtreet*, now called *Court-ſtreet*.

13. A tenement ſometimes *Robert Baker's* } 00 00 8

The laſt ſix of theſe houſes were to ſupply the Abbots table with neceſſary proviſion; the Rents whereof were called *Redditus ad Menſam*, or table Rents.

Redditus ad Cameram.

14. An houſe called the Crown in *Weſt ſtreet, per an.* } 00 05 0

15. The Bakehouſe next *Gorewell-lane, per Annum* } 00 02 5

16. An houſe ſometime *Simon Baker's* } 00 00 8

All theſe belonged unto the Chamberlain or Treaſury, and were called from thence *Redditus ad Cameram*.

17. A

	l.	*s.*	*d.*	
17. A tenement in the market place called the *Bear*	00	06	8	*Redditus ad Sacriſtam*

This is the houſe wherein *Geoffry Stills* now dwelleth, formerly one *Rob. Withiot's*.

18. The tenement in *Hog-market-lane*, late *Richard Drylond's*	00	00	4	

This is the corner houſe near the *Fiſh-market*, wherein Mr. *Francis Waterman* now dwelleth.

Theſe two houſes paid their rents to the Sacriſt, as allotted toward his ſupport and maintenance, as I find in the accounts of *Robert Withiot*, ſometimes Major of this town, and Receiver of the ſaid Rents for the Abbot.

19. Here was likewiſe an houſe in the town called the *Chequer* wch paid to the Abbot	00	16	8	

This houſe I take to be that which Mr. *John Kennet* now dwelleth

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
dwelleth in, which formerly was known by the name of the *Chequer.*			
20. Another tenement near thereunto, rented *per annum*	00	06	8
21. An houſe called the *Lewſell*, ſometime one *William Dyce*'s of *London*	01	13	4
Quære where this houſe ſtands, for I acknowledge my ſelf ignorant thereof.			
22. An houſe in the *Weſt-ſtreet*, which eſcheated to the Abbot paid *per an.*	00	06	8

Thus have we informed you of their Rents reſerved upon Leaſes.——Let us next caſt our eye on their *feoda Militaria* or *Knights fees*; and be acquainted with their Tenants that were ſubject to that tenure.

And here it is to be known that in antient times thirteen *Knights*

Knights fees and a quarter did in the vulgar eſtimate make up a tenure *per Baroniam*, which by juſt account amounted to four hundred Marks *per annum*, conceived in thoſe cheaper times to be a competent eſtate to maintain the porte and degree of a Baron.

Twenty pounds *per annum* being the Eſtate of a Knight, and

Twenty *Knights fees* amounting to four hundred pounds *per annum*, which was a *Baronie* and an half, were allotted as ſufficient for the ſupportation of an *Earldome*.

A *Marquiſdome*, which conſiſted of the revenue of two *Baronies*, amounted to eight hundred Marks *per annum*.

A *Dukedome* conſiſting of the revenues of two *Earldomes* was valued at eight hundred pounds *per annum*.

Of theſe tenants *by Knight*, the Abbot was to have Ward and Marriage of the Heir within age,

and relief upon every deſcent or alteration of their eſtate, *viz.* five pound for every intire *Knights fee*, and ſuit to the Lords Court.

The names of which Tenants, and the places where their *fees* lay, take as followeth.

1. *Dominus de* Badleſmer 3. *quart' unius feodi in eâdem.*

2. Richardus Peyforer *unum quarterium in* Bucklane.

3. Richardus *de* Rokeſle 3. *quarter' in* Weſtwood.

4. William Pyrie *unum feodum in eâdem.*

5. Hæredes Godwinſtone *unum feodum in eâdem.*

6. Johannes Vyne *unum feodum in eâdem.*

7. Simon *de* Chellefend *unum feodum in* Eſtling.

8. Johannes *de* Eſtling *unum feodum ibidèm.*

9. Willielmus *de* Steringden *dimidium unius feodi in* Eſtling.

10. Johannes

10. Johannes *filius* Arnoldi *de* Estling *dimidium unius feodi in eâdem.*

11. Radulphus *de* Estling *dimidium feodi in* Estling.

12. *Hæredes de* Lodenham *unum feodum in eâdem.*

13. Willielmus *de* Godisland *dimidium feodi de* Johanne *de* Estling.

14. *Magister Hospitalis de* Ospring *quadragestmam partem unius feodi in* Elverland.

15. Richardus Peyforer *dimidium feodi de* Galfrido *de* Lucy.

16. Robertus *de* Gatton *unum feodum in* Throwleigh.

17. Johannes *de* Estling *dimidium quarter' in* Ospring.

18. Johannes *de* Criol *duas partes de quarta parte unius feodi in* Harty.

19. Richardus Kentys & Basilia *filia* Rogeri Coci *dimidium quarter' in* Ospringe.

20. Robertus *de* Campaniâ *unum feodum in* Norton & Newenham. His dwelling was at

Champion Court in that pariſh.

21. *Idem* Robertus *dimidium feodi in* Harty.

22. Willielmus *de* Vyane *unum quarter' in* Norton.

23. Bartholomæus *de* Moreſton *unum quarter' in* Herſt.

24. Mabilia *de* Mars *unum quarter' in* Kingſtone.

25. Thomas *de* Fiſhbourne *dimidium feodi in eâdem.*

26. Galfridus *de* Sconynton *unum quarter' in* Sholand.

27. Willielmus *de* Edeſſe *dimidium feodi in eâdem.*

28. Willielmus *de* Vyndefield & Jordanus *de* Vynefield *unum quarter' de* Reginaldo *de* Cornehill.

29. Willielmus *de* Vyane *unum quarter' in* Oſpringe.

All which being put together amounted to about ſixteen *Knights fees*, an Eſtate of a larger dimenſion and proportion than was required by thoſe elder times to maintain the degree and

& porte of a Baron, as hath been ſaid. And that theſe Rents were no new perqueſites but ſuch as did antiently and very early appertain unto this covent, cannot better be proved than by the names of the above recited Tenants, moſt of which, if not all, had none other exiſtence, but ſuch as charitable Records and Hiſtories afforded them ſome centuries of years before the diſſolution of this Monaſtry, as is evident and perſpicuous to ſuch as are acquainted with the antient ſirnames and perſons of Eminency in this our County preſerved from Oblivion by the learned pains of my ingenious friend Mr. *Philpot* in his *Villarè Cantianum.*

Having now diſpatch'd their revenue, and ſatisfied our ſelves in their Eſtate both antient and modern. The next thing I propoſe to my ſelf, is, to acquaint you with a Liſt of the Benefactors to this our Abby, through

whoſe munificence and bounty all the former Revenues were heaped upon this houſe, which, according as I have promiſcuouſly gleaned them from antient Charters and Inquiſitions, I offer up unto thy view.

A Liſt of ſome of the Benefactors to this our Abby.

The firſt that deſerves that title is Queen *Maude*, who beſtowed upon this her Huſbands new Foundation Her Mannor of *Trenges*, as appears by this enſuing Charter.

Monaſt. Ang. "M Matild' *Regina* Angliæ *omnibus Chriſti fidelibus* Francis & Anglis *ſalutem in Domino ſempiternam. Sciatis me dediſſe & confirmâſſe & conceſſiſſe Abbati & Monachis ſancti Salvat'* de Faverſham *in liberam puram & perpetuam eleemoſynam Manerium meum de* Trengis *cum omnibus pertinentiis*

Quære, Where that Mannor lies? whether it be not in the Dioceſs of *Lincoln*, for there this Covent had a Mannor and a preſentation call'd *Tryeng.*

nentiis ſuis pro ſalute animæ meæ & omnium fidelium, quare volo quòd, &c. habeant & teneant benè & in pace cum omnibus ſuis pertinentiis & cum omnibus aliis libertatibus & liberis conſuetudinibus ad me vel hæredes meos ſpectantibus in perpetuum quietum &c. ab omnibus ſecularibus exactionibus, ſectis & demandis. Teſtibus Theobaldo *Archiep'* Cant. H. *Epiſc.* Winton. &c.

Note that this clauſe *quietum ab omnibus ſecular' exactionibus &c.* did not exempt them from Parlament, nor from finding men for the wars &c. as by their *Barony* tenure they were obliged See *Selden's Tit.* of *Hon.* the meaning of that clauſe.

This Queen, I find, gave likewiſe certain other lands to this Abby, *viz. Burdefield* and *Kingsdown* which ſhe purchaſed of *Fulke* de *Newnham.*

The next that enters the Liſt, is, *William* Earl of *Boloigne*, &c. whom I take to be King *Stephen's* *William Earl of Boloign.*

third Son by Queen *Maude*, who gave unto this Abby a certain Mannor called *Benedis*; and alſo confirms unto them the Mannor of *Treungle* or *Trenges*, as is evident by this his Charter.

Mon. Ang. Willielmus *comes* Boloniæ Warrenæ & Moritoniæ *Archiep' Epiſc. &c. ſalutem. Sciatis me conceſſiſſe & dediſſe & hac præſenti chartâ meâ confirmâſſe Abbatiæ ſancti Salvat' de* Faverſham, *& Monachis Deo ibidem ſervientibus Manerium de* Treunglâ, &c. *Et Manerium meum de* Benedis *cum omnibus appurtinentiis ſuis*, &c. *pro anima patris mei Regis* Stephani *& Reginæ* Matildis *matris meæ et* Euſtachii *fratris mei, et pro animâ meâ et omnium anteceſſor' meorum, quare volo* &c. *prænominata eccleſia de* Faverſham *habeat omnia ſupradicta*, &c. *Teſte* Willielmo *Priore de ſancto* Pancracio, Rogero *ſubpriore*, &c.

Quære, where that Mannor lieth.

H. 2. The next in order is King *Henry* the ſecond, who is ſo far from injuring

injuring this work of piety raiſed by King *Stephen*, although his adverſary, that he not only confirmed the former lands and privileges granted unto this Monaſtry, as ſhall be ſhewn hereafter, but alſo granteth them divers new privileges, *viz.* amongſt the reſt a Fair yearly to be holden on the feaſt of St. *Peter ad Vincula* or *Lammas-day*, to laſt the ſpace of eight dayes. The Eſtates which he confirmed (beſides thoſe which King *Stephen* and his Queen had granted to this Abby) were theſe enſuing particulars, *viz.*

1. *Chetham*, given to this Monaſtry by *Richard de Lucy*. *Lucy.*

This I take to be the Borough of *Chatham* in the hundred of *Faverſham*, which ſtill is permanent and fixed to the ſigniory of the Mannor of *Faverſham*, out of which the *Court Leete* holden for the ſaid Mannor every year elects one Borſholder, and not *Chetham* by *Rochester* as Mr. *Kilburn* would

would have it in his Survey of *Kent*.

Ralph Pycot. 2. The Mannor of *Monkton*, which *Ralph Pycott* beſtowed upon this Abby.

William Boſevil. 3. *Socam de feodo* Matildis *Reginæ, quam dedit eis* Williel-mus *de* Boſevil *in* London *et* Southwark.

Soca ſignifies a liberty or privilege of holding Court; by which it appears, that they had antiently ſome Juriſdiction of *Court-Leet*, or *Court-Baron* in that place.

William Brother to H. 2. 4. *Weſtbrooke* in *Oſpringe* with its appurtenances given to this Abby, by *William*, brother to King *Henry* the ſecond, ſaith the Charter: *Tamen quære*, for I read of no ſuch Brother he had.

Simon Turvil. 5. The Mill at *Goodwinſtone* of the gift of *Simon Turvil.*

Clarembald 6. *Boſindene* which *Clarembald* purchaſed.

King *John* King *John* after the Example of his Predeceſſor *Henry* the ſecond, not only confirms all the aforeſaid

aforeſaid Mannors, Lands, Premiſes and Franchiſes by the ſeveral perſons fore recited beſtowed upon this Abby; but alſo confirms certain Lands, called *Meſſewell* with their appurtenances of a freſher date confirmed on this Abby by *Robert* de *Betun.* *Rob. de Betun.*

He alſo by another Charter, as an argument of his Princely Charity, infranchiſed this Abby with the Royalty of the fiſhing grounds ſometimes belonging to his Mannor of *Milton*, as appears by this his enſuing Charter.

Carta Reg. pro piſcariâ.

Johannes *Dei gratiâ Rex* Angliæ, *Dominus* Hiberniæ, *Dux* Normaniæ, Aquitaniæ *et comes* An' *Archiepiſc' Epiſcop'* &c. *ſalutem. Sciatis nos dediſſe conceſſiſſe et hâc præſenti Chartâ noſtra confirmâſſe Deo et Eccleſiæ ſancti Salvator' de* Faverſham, *et Abbati et Monachis ibidem Deo ſervientibus piſcarias de* Middleton *quas homines de* Seſalter *tenuerunt per annuum*

annuum Redditum viginti ſolidor' per annum, apud Manerium noſtrum de Middleton, *et faciendo inde conſuetudines et ſervitia quæ piſcariæ illi fieri ſolebant. Quare volumus et firmiter præcipimus quòd præd' Abbas et Monachi habeant et teneant præd' piſcarias de* Middleton *cum omnibus pertinentiis ſuis benè et in pace, liberè et quietè, integrè, plenariè et honorificè in omnibus locis, et rebus ad eas pertinentibus, ſicut præd' eſt. Teſte* Willielmo *Comit'* Sor' *Com'* Roger' Lepigod, &c. *Dat' per manus* Hugonis *de* Wells *Arcidin'* Wellenſ' *apud ſanctum* Edmundum *decimo nono die* Maii, *Anno Regni noſtri ſeptimo.*

The Fiſheries hereby granted are moſt eminent for *Oyſters*, which ſurpaſs thoſe famous ones of *Lucrine*, and what not.

Auſon. *Oſtrea* Baianis *certantia quæ* —— *Dulcibus in ſtagnis reſluit maris æſtus opimus.*

As

As in the *Romans* dayes *Rutupis* or *Richborow* a decayed City in *Kent* was renowned for its *Oyſters*, according to that in *Juvenal*,

—Rutipanove *edita fundo* 4 Satyr.
Oſtrea callebat primo deprendere morſu.

ſo ſince the decay of that moſt eminent City, and the *Romans* forſaking us, theſe particular Fiſhing Grounds granted by King *John* unto the ſaid Abbot and Covent of *Faverſham*, which ſince the diſſolution of that houſe are by Patent of King *Charles* the firſt come into the hands of the right Worſhipfull Sir *George Sonds* inſtant Proprietor thereof, muſt next have preferment before any elſewhere upon our *Engliſh* ſhoars; of which the induſtrious *Hollander* is a competent witneſs, who every year expendeth at leaſt 2000, or 2500 pounds upon *Oyſters* taken from theſe grounds, not caring

to

to trade elſewhere as long as he can be ſupplyed with *Oyſters* for his money here.

Upon theſe fiſhing grounds there are above ſeventy families in the Town and Hundred of *Faverſham*, which have their ſole dependance and livelyhoods, through whoſe open fingers, as through a ſive, the whole town receiveth no inconſiderable profit. And beſides this profit which accrues to the town thereby, His Majeſty is ſupply'd from hence with a company of ſtout and reſolute Seamen, who have given as good proof of their Valours and Loyalties at all times when commanded thereunto, as any in the Nation beſides.

And now that theſe aforeſaid Fiſheries which have been from age to age the Nurſeries of ſuch valiant Seamen may not be intrench't upon and invaded by ſtrangers who are not Tenants thereunto, I ſhall ſhew you out of an antient cuſtome of the Abby,

Abby, the Dominion and Juriſdiction which the Abbot had over theſe waters in his time; it being no more than what the tenants thereof under Sir *George Sands* their Lord, and Proprietor thereof, may now well claim, if they pleaſe to regard it, *viz.* ſaith the *Cuſtumal*——

à molendino de Colemanſſole *in ſtrand' maris creſcent' & decreſc' uſque ad gurgites* Angl. *vocat'* Snowtwears, *& à gurgitibus uſque* Ride *nullus debet piſcari ſine licentiâ Abbatis de* Faverſham *quia ad eum pertinet dominium: Et Mercatores qui veniunt & Cuſtumarii fuerint & vendiderint infra limites ſupra dict' licet ad vel ad terram non applicuerint, dabunt Theolonium de omnibus Merchandiſis ſuis emptis vel venditis.* M.S. *Penes authorem.*

And then again ſaith the ſame *Cuſtumal*, *Nullus piſcari debet in aquâ prædictâ ſine fine faciend' ad Abbatem. Et nihilominùs reſerventur Abbati quatuor Piſces principales.* If

If theſe priviledges were well look'd unto, the Barquing men would keep themſelves to Sea, and not dare to treſpaſs thus upon a particular Liberty and Juriſdiction. For from *Colemanſſole* unto the *Snowtwears*, and from thoſe *Wears* unto *Ride* the waters and Strand at Flood and Ebb belong unto Sr. *G. Sonds*.

I ſhall next ſhew you an acknowledgment by the Commiſſary of the Admiral, that theſe waters are out of his juriſdiction, and that all Wrecks, Flotſons, Jetſons, Lagonds, &c. happening thereon did belong unto the Abbot, and now to Sr. *G. Sonds* &c. as appears by this his Certificate.

M.S. *Penes* Henric. Knowler

Sciant præſentes et futuri quòd ego Johan. Woodhall *Commiſſarius ſive Deputatus generalis et ſpecialis Domini* Arthuri Plantaginet *Vicecom'* Lyſly *&c. vidi inſpexi et perlegi omnia et ſingula privilegia, conceſſiones et donationes conceſſa Abbati et conventui*

genr' amicum noſtrum tàm in ſcriptis quàm in verbis.

tui Monaſterii ſancti Salvatoris de Faverſham, *per illuſtriſſimum principem* Steph. *Regem & ſucceſſores ſuos imperpetuùm, nec non & omnes confirmationes omnium Regum a tempore præd' Regis* Stephani *unà cum confirmatione illuſtriſſimi et metuendiſſimi Principis ac fidei defenſor' Regis, Moderni* H. 8. *quorum quidèm privilegiorum vigores terræ poſſeſſiones, et portus omnes et ſinguli tàm per terras quàm per aquas et mare, nec non tenentes firmarii et cæteri homines omnes qui et ſinguli infra dominia libertatis Monaſterii antedicti tàm in comitatu* Cantiæ *quàm in aliis locis pertinent' ab omnimodâ Juriſdictione et poteſtate Admiralli* Angliæ *pro tempore exiſtentis et officialium ejus quorumcunque plenariè ſunt exempti, in tantum quòd omnes punitiones, correctiones, deodanda Flotſon, Jetſon, Lagon, et Wreck, et alia omnia contingentia quæcunque quandocunque et qualitercunque per terras aquas et mare*

cum omnibus et ſingulis ſuis pertinentiis præfato Abbati et Conventui Monaſterii *antedicti exiſtent' nec non ex conſuetudine præſcriptâ à tempore et per tempus immemoratum uſitatum pertinere dignoſcuntur. Acta fuerunt hæc omnia prout ſuper ſcribuntur & recitantur Anno regni Regis* H.8. 18. *penultimo die verò menſis* Novembris *apud* Faverſham *antedict. coram me* Johanne VVoodhall *commiſſario ſive Deputato antedict' quem quidem proceſſum ac omnia & ſingula in eâdem content' rata & grata habentes authoritate nobis commiſſâ approbamus, ratificamus & confirmamus. In cujus rei teſtimonium ſigillum magni officii noſtri Admirallitatis* Angliæ *præſentibus apponi mandamus. Dat'* Londini, &c. *ſexto die* Decembris, *Anno Regis* H.8. 18. *ſupradict'.*

But now towards the purſuit of our Benefactors to this Abby again.

H. 3. Confirmed unto this Covent all the Mannors, Lands and Premiſes, Franchiſes and Freedoms granted unto them by the former Benefactors.

And now from the Eleventh year of this Kings Reign muſt we take a ſtride or leap unto the Reign of *H.* 8. not knowing how to recover the names of ſuch Benefactors which hapned in this large interval or ſpace of time, which doubtles did afford ſome, though not ſo many as the precedent times, by reaſon of the Statute of *Mortmain*, made in the ninth year of the laſt Kings Reign, which tied up the hands of all bodies politick from receiving any more the Lands and Tenements of charitable and well devoted perſons.

But notwithſtanding this reſtraint, which rendred them uncapable to receive Lands, &c. This loſs was in part ſupplyed and made leſs ſenſible unto the Religious by a piece of Policy *Semn. Cant.* 58.

which they quickly put in ure; and that was the procuring not only of privileges and immunities from payment of Tythes, but alſo of Impropriations or Annexions of Parſonages to their houſes, which though invented, and on foot long before, yet now the other current of their gain being ſtopt much more abounding than ever before.

Hence came it to paſs that this Abby had theſe following Churches appropriated unto it, *viz.*

1. *Luddenham* Church, of the gift of *William de Luddenham*, whoſe Charter thereof I find Regiſtred in the *Leiger* Book of the ſaid Abby: part of which (to acquaint the Reader with how great Ceremonies our Anceſtors conveyed the Eſtates which they devoted to pious uſes) I will crave leave to inſert——

Leig. penes G. Sonds *Mil.* *Superſcriptam eleemoſynam donationem & oblationem feci in Eccleſiâ ſancti Salvator' de* Faverſham *ſuper altare per cultellum annuente*

annuente hærede meâ Mabiliâ *filiâ meâ &* Gyſle *uxore meâ ſimilitèr aſſiſtente conventû Clericis & Laicis plurimis.* VVillielmuſq; *de* Inſula *evoluto poſt hæc aliquanto tempore factus eſt gener meus poſtulans devotè in capitulo eccleſiæ ſancti Salvat' de* Faverſham *fraternitatem & communionem beneficiorum ejuſdem eccleſiæ & accipiens etiam ipſe textum Evangelicum ponens ſuper altare hanc eleemoſynam et benignè conceſſit et quòd eam manuteneret ante altare fidelitèr promiſit,* &c.

This *William de Luddenham*'s Name and Family was extinguiſhed and went out in a Daughter married unto *William de Inſula*, who afterward I find wasKnighted.

By theſe two perſons Names we may obſerve the antient manner of our fore-fathers aſſuming to themſelves and poſterities Sirnames, *viz.* from the places of their dwellings. Hence *Vide Lamberts Kent.* 349.

come it to paſs, that the town of *Faverſham* gave Sirname to an antient Family long ſince expired; The village of *Ore* to an antient Family of the *Ore's*; *Preſton*, *Selling*, *Graveny*, *Greenſtreet*, *Norton*, *Sedingborn*, *&c.* to men and families of the ſame name: Nay, not a conſiderable and antient houſe about us, but hath imparted his Name to the antient Proprietors thereof; As for Example, I have met with *John* de *Brokedale*, *John* de *Pyrie*, *Ade* de *Ham*, *Alexander* de *Holmanſtone*, &c. but let this ſuffice.

And now to proceed to our purpoſe:

2. *Fulke* de *Newnham* gave the Church of *Newnham* to this Abby; but there hapning ſome differences between the Prioreſs of *Davington* and Abbot about this Church; the ſaid Prioreſs claiming it by a like grant to belong to her Cloyſter. They both reſolved to reſign it into the Archbiſhops

Archbiſhops hands for him to determine who had the beſt right in it——Who awarded the ſaid Church to the Prioreſs and her Cloyſter, paying yearly therefore into the Firmory of this our Abby two Marks and an half.

Hubert' *Dei gratiâ* Cantuar' *Archiep' totius* Angliæ *primas. Omnibus & ad quos præſens ſcriptum pervenerit, Æternam in Domino ſalutem. Noverint univerſitas veſtra quòd cùm inter Abbatem & Monachos de* Faverſham *ex unâ parte & Moniales de* Davington *ex alterâ parte ſuper' Eccleſiâ de* Newnham *controverſia verteretur, Tandem pars utraque in præſentiâ noſtrâ conſtitut' totum jus quod in eâdem Eccleſiâ de* Newnham *ſibi vendicavit ſponte in manum noſtram reſignavit totum nobis relinquens ut pro voluntate et arbitrio noſtro inde diſponeremus. Nos autem eo facto Eccleſiam illam cum omnibus pertinentiis ſuis dictis Moni-*

alibus conſideratâ paupertate earum pro intuitû conceſſimus et dedimus in proprios uſus perpetuò habend' & poſſidend' ſtatuentes ut præd' Monachis indè annuatim per eaſdem Moniales duæ Marcæ & dimid' reddantur quas ſpecialiter aſſignavimus ad eorundem Monachorum firmariam. Ut igitùr hoc in poſterum nulli veniat in dubium, verùm ratum permaneat & inconcuſſum id præſenti ſcripto & ſigilli noſtri appoſitione proteſtari dignum duximus et confirmat' his teſtibus, &c.

3. To theſe we may likewiſe add,

1. The Rectory of *Boughton.*
2. The Rectory of *Preſton.*
3. The Rectory of *Hernehill.*

which three I conceive might be conferr'd on this Abby by ſeveral Archbiſhops of *Canterbury. John Stratford* Archbiſhop, I find, fixed *Preſton.*

And now my hand is in amongſt the Churches which were appropriated

propriated unto this houſe, I think it not amiſs to acquaint you that they had an Advowſon in the Dioceſs of *Lincoln* called *Tryeng*, which I take to be that which is called in Latin *Treungla*, and *Trenges* in the Charters of Queen *Maude* and her Succeſſors often mentioned before; the preſentation whereof was recovered from them by King *Ed.* 1. in 31. year of his Reign by ſuite in the *Kings Bench*. *Pryns Hiſt. K. John. H. 3. Ed. 1. 988.*

Well, now let us come to the Reign of *H.* 8. where I find theſe perſons following deſerve the name of Benefactors, *viz.*

1. Sir *John Fyneux* Chief Juſtice of the *C. B.*
2. *Edw. Guildford* Eſquire.
3. *William Crowmer* Eſquire.
4. *George Guilford* Eſquire.
5. *Lodowick Clifford* Eſquire.

who by Licenſe of this King, notwithſtanding the ſtatute of *Mortmaine*, gave unto this Monaſtry thirty two acres of land, called *Upland*, with a certain Barn thereupon

thereupon builded; and alſo a certain Marſh called *Gore-marſh* adjoyning to the ſaid twenty three acres in the Pariſh of *Boughton* under the *Bleane* and *Hernehill*.

The ſaid Sir *John Fyneux* gave likewiſe twenty three acres of other land to this Abby lying at *Hegdale* in *Preſton*. In this field is one of thoſe pits mentioned by Mr. *Camden* in his *Britan.* to be about this town, where the *Brittains* were ſuppoſed by him antiently to have dug their Marle, which to this day is known by the name of *Hedgale Pit*.

Ralph Seyntleger Eſquire.
John Norton Eſq.
William Norton Gent.
William Clerke Prieſt.
John at *Stocke*.
Robert Rey.
} Benefactors.

Out

Out of a charitable and pious intention deveſt themſelves of this Eſtate following, and ſettle it upon the Abbot and Covent of *Faverſham*, *viz.* The Mannor of *Elynden* with its appurtenances, and 77 acres of land, 77 acres of paſture, 64 acres of wood, and the quit-rent of 02*l.* and 11*d.* 53 Hens, and 6 Cocks *per annum*, with their appurtenances in the Pariſhes of *Whitſtaple* and *Seaſalter*.

Next to theſe I find,

John Roper Eſq.
Ralph Seyntleger Eſq.
John Norton Eſq.
Tho. Hankewel.
John at *Stocke* and *John Turner.*
} Benefactors.

To joyn in a ſettlement of two acres of marſh land lying in *Luddenham*, called *Egging-Worth-marſh*, alias *Weld marſh*, upon this Cloyſter. Next

Next to them I find one *John Bovyor* to inveſt this Abby with 13 acres of paſture in *Hernehil*, called *Botterells Dobbys*, and *Yaldings Croft*, and an acre and half of meadow in *Prieſt-meade*.

John Sare out of a like charitable meaning beſtowed 6 acres and 1 rodd of land, being in 2 Crofts lying in *Hernhill*, called *Hertange*, on this Monaſtry.

John at *Stocke* and *Rob. Goodhewe.* } Benefactors.

Gave 13 acres and an half of land called *Newland* and *Hertang* to the ſaid Covent.

Thomas Ovyn next to them in order deſerves our notice, who ſetled upon this our Abby 16 acres of land with its appurtenances lying in the Iſle of *Harty*, at *Keyborow hill*.

Upon the return of an *Ad quod damnum*, (for that was the way after the ſtatute of *Mortmain*,) I find it certified, that, *William*

William Brooke
John Goodwin
and
John Goodhew
} Benefactors.

might give, without prejudice to the King, 11 acres of land, called *Mentylham*, and 12 acres of land called *Cockham* with their appurtenances, in *Hernehill*, unto the Monaſtry of St. *Saviour* at *Faverſham*.

Richard Colwel at the ſame time obtained likewiſe licenſe to give unto the ſaid Monaſtry 86 acres of ſalt-marſh, called *Julian* marſh in the Pariſh of St. *Thomas* the Apoſtle in *Harty*.

This *Richard Colwel* lies buried in the pariſh Church of *Faverſham*, at every corner of whoſe ſtone there is the lively pourtract of a *Well*, and *Coll* written underneath, an antient device to intimate unto poſterity their names called *à rebus*.

In

In *Thomas Colwel* grandſon to this *Rich.* did that antient Name and Family expire, whoſe Monument is to be ſeen in St. *Sepulchers* Church on *Snow-hill London.*

From the Daughter and Heir of this *Thomas* my very worthy friends, *Richard Brickenden*, and *John Brickenden* of *Grays-Inn* Eſquires are deſcended, who as Heirs and Gavel-kind to their Mother, became proprietors of an antient Eſtate of the *Colwels* in *Hernehil* and *Graveny.*

My induſtry cannot yet recover any other Demeans this Monaſtry was endowed with, and therefore I intended *Richard Colwel* ſhould have brought up the rear, and have ended this my Catalogue of Benefactors to this Abby.

But that I find in the *Leiger* of this Abby, Cardinal *Woolſey* acknowledged for no leſs, wherefore it would be injuſtice in me to deny him that place.

How

How great his deſerts were I cannot tell, but this I aſſure you, he was high in their eſteem, as appears by this their complement unto him.

Reverendiſſimo in Chriſto Patri et Domino, Domino Thomæ *Cardinali* Eborac' *Archiep'* Angliæ *que Cancellario veſtri humiles et devoti* Johannes *permiſſione divinâ Abbas Monaſterii ſancti Salvator' de* Faverſham, *et ejuſdem Monaſterii conventus ordinis ſancti,* Benedicti Cant. *Dioceſios ſalutem, et augmentum continuum cæleſtium gratiarum, Exigente veſtræ devotionis affectû quem ad noſtram habetis ordinem et Eccleſiam vobis omnium miſſarum orationum, Jejuniorum, Eleemoſynarum, Abſtinentiarum, vigiliarum, laborum, cæterorumque actuum bonorum quæ per fratres noſtri ordinis Dominus fieri dederit participationem tàm in vita quàm in morte, et confraternitatem concedimus tenore præſentium*

Leig. penes ſæpè commemoratum G. Sonds *milit'*

ſentium ſpecialem. Volumus inſupèr ordinamus et concedimus ut poſt obitum veſtrum anima veſtra per omnia Monaſteria et domos Religioſorum totius Angliæ *ubicunque capitulum regularitèr tenetur abſolutionibus et orationibus recommendetur et nomen veſtrum unàcum fratribus noſtris defunctis per noſtrum communem brevigerulum ad omnia Religioſorum loca per totam* Angliam *conſcripti deportetur ſicut conſuevit fieri pro Abbatibus & fratribus noſtræ congregat' Ac etiam nomen veſtrum in Martilogio Capituli noſtri ob perpetuam rei memoriam ſpecialiter intituletur. In cujus Conceſſionis teſtimonium ſigillum noſtrum commune præſentibus opponi fecimus. Dat' in Monaſterio noſtro præd' undecimo die* Aprilis *Anno Dom.* 1516.

See the Hiſtory of him.

This complement was beſtowed on him, I conceive, when he lodged with them in this their Abby in his journey towards *France*

France as Ambaſſador to mediate for the *French* King, who was taken priſoner by the Emperour.

It is an old ſaying, that *A friend at Court is worth a peny in ones purſe*; & put caſe he parted with nothing at preſent to this Abby, he was in a capacity to do them courteſies elſewhere.

And thus I end my Catalogue of the Benefactors. Let us next take a view of the Offices and Officers that I read of once to be within this Abby.

1. The firſt Officer we meet with is the Porter and ſub-Porter. The ſub-Porter I ſuppoſe attended the outward gate, and had his dwelling houſe near adjoyning, which I take to be that where *Daniel* the ſeaman now dwelleth.

2. The next (for we tie our ſelves to a certain rule or method) that we meet with is the Almnery or Amnery, wherein poor and impotent people did

live maintained by their Charity. It had divers Rents to maintain it, amongſt which I conceive the Meadow now known by *Shooting Meadow* did appertain unto it; it being antiently called *Amery, quaſi, Amnery croft.*

3. The Sextary comes next to our view, which ſtill continues its name: It is ſo called, becauſe antiently it did appertain and relate unto the Sacriſt or Sexton. In this place ſometime ſtood the Church of this Govent ſo totally long ſince demoliſh'd, that there is not ſo much as a ſtone or underpinning left to inform poſterity where abouts it ſtood. But though the malice of the other age was ſuch, as to deprive us of the view thereof, yet will I endeavour Chymiſt-like to redeem it from oblivion and its own aſhes, and afford it room in this our Hiſtory.

It was, when in being, franchiſed with a ſanctuary, ſo called, of

of an old Mosaical rite used amongst the *Israelites*, amongst whom every Tribe had certain Cities and places of refuge to which the guilty might repaire, and for a time be protected from the rigour of the laws, of which you may read in the sacred, *Ex.* 21. 3. *Numb.* 35. 1. *Deut.* 4. 41. and *John* 20. 2.

The use of them here in *England* was, that whatsoever offendor could reach the Altar immediately after the offence committed before he was arrested by any Officer, was to have the privilege of Sanctuary, and be freed from the rigour of the laws and save his life, or other corporal punishment that was by the laws to be inflicted on him; nevertheless on this condition, that within 40 days after such taking sanctuary before the Coroner of the place he confess his fact, and take an oath for his and her perpetual banishment out of this Realm into a forraign Country,

chooſing rather *perdere patriam quàm vitam.*

An example of the manner of this Abjuration by a Felon I have met with, which for a theft committed took Sanctuary in this Church of the Abby of *Faverſham*, which take as followeth.

VVillielmus Clerk *Hoſier, die* Mercurii *prox. poſt feſtum ſancti* Alphegii *Anno regni Regis* H.4. *ſecundo, fugam fecit ad Eccleſiam ſancti Salvatoris de* Faverſham *pro tuitione Eccleſiæ præd' habend' Et petiit Coronatorem Et ſuper hoc* VVillielmus Ledys *Major & Coronator Domini Regis in hâc parte ad locum præd' acceſſit coram quo ad diem & locum præd' recognovit ſeipſum eſſe felonem Domini regis & fatebatur quòd in die Dominicâ in feſto ſancti* Stephani *anno ſupradicto Regis* Henrici *unum par de Beads pretii* 2s. Agnetis Thorneton *de la* Newcaſtle *ſuper* Tynum *felonicè furatus eſt, & petiit* &c. *ſecundùm legem et conſuetudinem*

MS. *Penes majorem villæ de* Faverſh.

ſuetudinem Regni Angliæ *ipſum ab Eccleſiâ deliberari. Et ſuper hoc ad foras Eccleſiæ ductus coram eodem Coronatore ad diem præd' regnum* Angliæ *abjuravit, qui quidèm Coronator portum paſſagii ſui Donor' aſſignavit*——

Here it is to be obſerved, that when by the Coroner a place certain (as in this caſe there was) is aſſigned unto the Felon to take ſhipping, that he was to go the direct way thither, tarrying at the Port but one flood and ebb if he can have paſſage, and till he can ſo paſs going every day in the ſea up to the knees to aſſay if he may paſs over, and if he cannot paſs within forty dayes, then to put himſelf into the Church again as a Felon. *Wing. Abridgment of the Common Law, pag. 70.*

Note alſo, that though they were baniſhed the Realm, yet they were not to be ſent amongſt Infidels and Pagans. And this was the antient law of the Realm which ſaith——

Prohibemus autem nè Chriſtiani

fide tinctus quiſpiam à regno procùl amandetur neque ad eos qui nondùm Chriſto fidem adjunxerant relegetur nè eorum aliquandò ſiat animorum jactura.

The foundation of abjuration was the Sanctuary of the Church or Church-yard, and he or ſhe that was not capable of this Sanctuary could not abjure; therefore it is ſaid, that he that committed ſacrilege, becauſe he could not take the privilege of Sanctuary could not abjure.

Cook 3. Inſ. 115. The Common Law herein was very antient, and had ſaved the life of many a man, and continued without change untill an Act made in the 22 *H.* 8. 14. and other Statutes, for which cauſe all Statutes before 35th *Eliz.* concerning abjur'd perſons ſtand repealed by the Stat. 1 *Jac.* 25. whereby the antient Common Law concerning abjuration was revived.

But ſince by an Act made 21 year of King *James* all privileges of

of Sanctuary are quite taken away.

In this Church were depoſited the bodies of many a worthy perſon, whoſe Monuments are long ſince become as ruinous and diſperſed as their aſhes, whoſe names muſt with their duſt ſleep in the grave of oblivion till the malice of time and tyranny of man ſhall ceaſe, and the whole univerſe muſt confeſs its aſhes. Amongſt which numberleſs number here reſted in quietneſs, until the diſſolution, our Gracious Founder King *Stephen*, *Maude* his Queen, our Royal Benefactor, and *Euſtace* their eldeſt Son, when for the gain of the lead wherein this Kings body was incoffin'd his ſacred Remains were diſlodg'd and thrown into the neighbouring river. *Speeds Chron.*

O ſtrange act of reforming age thus to diſturb the quiet of the dead! A cruelty which *Pagans* did abhor and moſt ſeverely puniſh, counting ſuch crimes equall with Parricide—

And amongſt the Chriſtians —— *Adeò flagitioſum hoc ſcelus habitum fuit, ut etiam inter cauſas relatum ſit, cur uxor à marito divertere poſſit ſi nimirum ſepulchrorum diſſolutorem eſſe probaverit* ——

Weaver. Mon. Nay, whoſoever in the repairing of any ruinous decayed Sepulcher did any way undecently touch the body of the dead perſon therein laid down to his eternal reſt, that party ſo offending was commanded by the law *decem pondera auri fiſco inferre*—— to pay ten pound weight into the Exchequer : But theſe overzealous reformers did by one and the ſame Patent or Commiſſion both rob the dead and living, couzening the Exchequer & the Grave, and yet eſcap'd unpuniſhed : but beware o'th' other world ——

Si pia majorum violes monumenta viator,
Vltrices furias experiêre brevì.

I ſhall

I ſhall now obtrude upon the Reader this ſhort and impartial Character of that pious Prince, it being too great an ingratitude not to remember our Founder.

King *Stephen*'s Character.

1. For his Birth, it was Noble, he being the ſon of *Stephen* Earle of *Blois*, by *Adela* Daughter to King *William* the Conquerour.

2. As his birth was noble and high, ſo were his actions as tranſcendent and ſurpaſſing as his birth—— He being not by the worſt of his enemies (who doubtleſs cannot be ſuſpected of partiality or kindneſs to him) obſerved to be ſullied with any particular vice.

3. As his exceſs and height of courage had given him an advantage to reach the Crown over anothers head and place it on his own; ſo did his goodneſs and juſtice onely prompt him to reſtore it again (which if rightly conſider'd will repreſent him rather

ther as a Guardian or Protector than an Uſurper) he but defending it during the minority of the heir againſt the pretenſions of ſtrangers.

4. And laſtly, as perpetual monuments of his piety (although they now languiſh in their own ruines, and ſtand themſelves in need of monuments) are theſe following Religious houſes, *viz.* The Abbies of *Cogs-hall* in *Eſſex*, of *Furneys* in *Lancaſhire*, of *Hurguilers* and *Faverſham* in *Kent*, an houſe of black *Nuns* at *Heigham* in *Kent*, and alſo another for *Nuns* at *Carew*, all which were of his own Foundation and Endowment, which ſhews, that as he was *miles egregius* (ſaith one,) ſo was he *mente piiſſimus*, there being more Religious houſes founded in his Reign, than in an 100 years before.

He died at *Dover* the 25th *Oct.* 1154. with his old diſeaſe of the Emrods, and was buried in this

our

our Abby Church of *Faverſham* near his wife and ſon *Euſtace*, who before had taken poſſeſſion thereof, in the 49th year of his age, and almoſt nineteenth of his reign.

And now having purſu'd our Royal Founder from his birth to his Tomb, let us a little reflect on his Royal Conſort Queen *Maude*, whoſe character being moſt conciſely and ingenuouſly drawn to our hands by Sir *Richard Baker*, we will crave leave here to inſert.

Queen *Maude* her Character.

She was the Daughter and Heir of *Euſtace* Earle of *Boloigne*, a woman made for the proportion of both fortunes; in adverſity not dejected, in proſperity not elated. Whilſt her Huſband was at liberty a woman, during his durance, as it were, a man, acting his part for him when he was reſtrained from acting it himſelf: *Bakers Chron.*

himſelf: not looking that Fortune ſhould fall into her lap, but induſtrious to procure it. She was Crowned Queen at *Weſtminſter* upon Sunday being *Eaſter* day, and the 22 of *March* in the firſt year of her Huſbands Reign, and of Grace 1136. and being Queen 15 years, ſhe died at *Henningham* caſtle in *Eſſex* the third of *May*, and year of *Chriſt* 1151. and was from thence conveyed unto this our Monaſtry of *Faverſham* to be interred. She had this *Epitaph* formerly inſcribed on her Monument, (though long ſince what through the malice of time, and impiety of ſacrilegious hands, both *Epitaph* and *Tomb* are mouldred into nothing) which to preſerve her ſtill in memory I will here inſert——

Weaver ex Bibli. Cottonis.

Anno Milleno C. quinquagenoq; primo,
Quo ſua non minuit ſed ſibi noſtra tulit,
Mathildis

Mathildis *fælix conjux* Stephani *quoque Regis*
Occidit inſignis moribus & titulis.
Cultrix vera Dei, cultrix & pauperiei,
Hîc ſubnixa Deo quo fruere-tur eo;
Fœmina ſi qua polos conſcendere quæque meretur,
Angelicis *manibus diva hæc Regina tenetur.*

It would be uncharitable to paſs by *Euſtace* their Son in ſilence who made ſuch a buſſle and ſtir whilſt living——.

And here as ſkilful Gardiners can judge of the fruit by the tree; ſo are we left to eſtimate of this Princely bud by the royal ſtems that produc'd it: It being as common for Rationals as Vegetives to come forth in the image and likeneſs of their Originals.

His years were too few to let his actions be many; that ſmall part

part he acted upon the ſtage of this Kingdom was tumultuous and boyſterous, and argued more of the Lion in him than the Lamb.

The agreement which his Father had made with *H.* 2. had animated his early courage, and certainly had he not been ſnatch'd away by an untimely fate, this Kingdome had ſtill continued the ſcene of wars, and groan'd under the direful ſtrokes of his diſpleaſure. To be the Heir of a King and be bauk'd of a Crown was an injury unſupportable.

He married *Conſtance* ſiſter of *Lewis* the ſeventh King of *France*, daughter of King *Lewis* the *Groſs*, who afterward was remarried to *Raimond* the third Earle of *Tholouſe*. For *Enſtace* died before her without iſſue by her in the 18th year of his age, and in the ſame year of his Fathers Reign 1152. And was buried beſide his Mother in his Fathers

thers Monaſtry of *Faverſham*.

In this Church I read of two Chappels, *Peter-Rood-Chappel.*

1. The one called the *Peter-Rood-Chappel*, in which I find *Robert Fale*, ſometime of this town to lie buried.

2. And alſo another dedicated unto St. *Mary*, commonly called St. *Maries Chappel.* St. *Maries Chappel.*

And this is all that I have ever yet read concerning this Church.

But before we depart from the Church we muſt encounter with *Oſtiarius* or *Hoſtolarius*, an Officer ſo called, whoſe duty was to open and ſhut the Church door, and look to the decent keeping of the Church and the holy Ornaments laid up in the Veſtry. As alſo the Reliques of Saints and Holy men; amongſt which was formerly to be ſhewn you ſometime a piece of the holy Croſs preſented to King *Stephen* by *Godfry* of *Bovillon* his Kinſman, King of *Jeruſalem*. *Oſtiarius.* *Rob. Glou.*

To

To this Officer, there were likewiſe certain Rents aſſigned, amongſt which in the accounts of the aforementioned *Robert Withiot*, I find an houſe called the *Crown* in the town, charged with 7*s*. 6*d*. Rent *per annum*, payable to this Officer, and alſo two *Hens* valued at ſixpence due for the ſame.

Firmary. Having thus diſcharged this Officer, let us next make to the Firmary or Hoſpital, ſo called by a Metonymie, *quia infirmos firmos homines reddit*; wherein perſons down-right ſick (trouble to others and troubled by others, if lodging in the Dormitory) had the benefit of Phyſick and attendance private to themſelves. It was puniſhable for any to eat herein except ſolemnly deſigned for the place.

The Maſter or Chief of this Firmary was called *Firmerarius*.

To this place the Nuns at *Davington* paid yearly two Marks and an half upon the decree of *Hubert*

Hubert Arch.Biſh.of *Cant.* as hath been ſaid before.

From hence let me next lead you unto the *Refectory* or *hall* whoſe building ſtill remains intire: it being now made a repoſitory and Storehouſe for ladders and other little Fruiterers trumpery, which ſervile office and employment thereof hath doubtleſs been the main cauſe of its continuance and ſurviving the reſt of its neighboring parts and allyes. *Refectory.*

I find nothing left remarkable in it, ſave that on the North door cut in ſtone remains yet legible this old inſcription in characters of that age, *Jheſus Chriſt have mercy on us.*

It had formerly an officer belonging unto it called *Refectorius* or the *Controller* thereof.

On the Eaſt parts of this Refectory ſtands ſome part, as I take it, of the Abbots lodging, by reaſon of its convenient ſcituation for the ſuperviſing that *Abbots Lodgings.*

place. In which are an antient chamber or two, whoſe roofs are ſieled with oaken wainſcot after the manner of ſome chancels.

On the weſt ſide of this *Refectory* ſtandeth a building of ſtone, which opens with two doors into the *Refectory* or *hall* and with another into the cloſe, Northwards, which I take to be the *Almnery* afore mentioned, whereunto the needy might reſort without troubling the hall or officer thereof.

Camerarius.

The next officer that challengeth our notice is the *Camerarius* or *Chamberlain*, an officer of great truſt, as keeping the Keys of the treaſury, iſſuing out and receiving in all conſiderable ſums of mony.

To this great office, as to all the others, divers lands and houſes were aſſigned; Amongſt which I find a piece of land called *Chamerary croft* to belong: & alſo the rents of divers houſes in

in *Faverſham* aforementioned.

The next officer of eminency is the *Bailiff*, whoſe power and authority was moſt viſible in the town where he repreſented the perſon of the Abbot, being coequall, if not in many things paramount, the ſecular Magiſtrate or Major. Nothing could be enacted or conſulted on by the townſmen but this officer was to be privy to it. *Bailiff.*

He was diſtinct from the commonalty in the election of Major *Jurate*, or any other officer. *Town book fol.* 20.

He was a perſon learned in the lawes of the Realm, amongſt which officers of greateſt honour was Sir *John Fyneux*, who was afterwards a Judge in the common pleas in the time of *H.* 7. and *H.* 8. Who was a bountiful benefactor to this our Abby to which he had been *Bailiff*, as hath been ſhewn you elſewhere.

One *Robert Edmunds* I find to be the laſt *Bailiff* of this Monaſtry being there at the diſſolution

thereof. Theſe officers were wont to carry a white Staff or wand in their hand, like the Majors.

And notwithſtanding the diſſolution of this houſe the office of *Bailiff* continued in the town. For in the year 1562 *Robert Collwell* being then the Kings *bailiff*, as they then called him, the town finding this officer to be of no great uſe, procured a releaſe from the ſaid *Robert Collwell*, of this his office of *Bailiff*, paying him therefore an annuity during his life, and ſince that time to this that officer hath been clean laid aſide.

Seneſcallus. The *Seneſchall* or *ſteward* comes next in order, whoſe office was to keep their courts and determine controverſies therein ariſing. See his dwelling before.

Cellerarius. And after him the *Cellerarius* or *Collector*, whoſe office regarded the *cibum Monachorum* (the proviſion or food for the monkes) and to this purpoſe the *Piſtrinum*,

num, *Bracinum* &c. *viz.* The *Bake-houſe*, *Malt-houſe* and *Brew-houſe* were committed to his charge and cuſtody; the tatter'd skeletons whereof remain yet viſible.

The *Kitchin* muſt next likewiſe be remembred, which is now totally erazed. It ſtood, when in being, contiguous to the well. In which, as I have been informed, there was a mantle piece of timber, 30 foot in length. The foundation of this kitchin being of ſtone, in the year 1652 was dug up to help to pave the broad ſtreet in the town, commonly called *Court-ſtreet*, and as the labourers were digging, an arched ſubterranean vault was diſcovered, which was ſuppoſed by the credulous vulgar to have undermin'd the channel, and to have ſerved the monkes for a paſſage to the nuns at *Davington*. But by the more judicious it was conceived to be only a ſewar to convey the ſul- *Kitchin.*

lage and water from the *Kitchin*.

To this place as to the others there were certain peculiar Officers aſſigned as the *Coquus* and *Subcoquus*, *Salſarius Coquinæ*, *Focarius Coquinæ* &c.

As a relative to the *Kitchin* we will next take in the *Paſtor* or *Shepherd*. For you muſt know the Abbots kept a ſtock & Marſhland in their own hands for the ſuſtentation and maintenance of their table. Wherefore if you pleaſe we will examine this officers accompts and ſee how he ſtands charged and diſcharged.

The charge of the Shepherd *in the 24th year of H. 7. in firſt week of* Advent.

Imprimis, He is to anſwer for 258

Item, He is to anſwer for increaſe this year, 50

Item, For Ews received of *S. H.* 40 *price* 50 s.

Item,

Item, For Ewes and Weathers, 4 *price* 5 s. 8 d.

Item, For 3 Ews ſold, 3 *price* 3 s. 6 d.

Sum 366

The Shepherd's *diſcharge.*

The ſaid *Shepherd* demands allowance, as delivered to the *Kitchin*, from *Chriſtmas* to the beginning of *Lent* in the Weathers. 32 *at* 2 s. *and* 6 d. *apiece.*

He alſo craves to be allowed in Wethers, delivered to the *Kitchin* from *Eaſter* unto *Midſummer*. 32 *at* 2 s. *and* 4 d. *a piece.*

He alſo demands to be allowed in Ewes delivered to the *Kitchin*, from *Midſummer* unto the feaſt of St. *Andrew* the Apoſtle. 100 *at* 14 d. *apiece for* 40. *and* 16 d. *apiece for the other* 60.

He

He alſo prays allowance for 4 Wether-ſtags that died, price 2 *s.* a piece and for ewes dead 7 at 16 *d.* a piece	17 *s* 4 *d.*
Sum	CLXXV.

And ſo there remained in the cuſtody of the *Shepherd* on the feaſt of St. *Andrew* 1. *H.* 8. 190. *undè* in Wethers 70.

Here would I have the Reader obſerve with me the exceeding cheapneſs of proviſion in thoſe days. An whole ſubſtantial ſheep being valued not above 2 *s.* 8 *d.* and many at but 14 *d.* apiece as appears by the precedent accounts.

This was the time when a ſtout labourer could afford to work for three pence or a groat a day, and thank you too; when nine or ten ſhillings had been ſufficient to have treated a King.

King. As was experienc'd by one *Norwood* of this country, who not many years before feaſted *Hen.* 5. at the *Red Lyon* Inn in *Sittingborn*, where the whole wine that was drank by the King and his Retinue at that time amounted but to nine ſhillings and ſixpence.

Next to the *Shepherd* in order, although of a far different quality, are we lead to the *Forreſtarius* or *Forreſter.* *Som. Cant.*

This was an officer that related to the *Blean* which in elder times was reputed a Forreſt: it being much more in latitude than now we behold it; extending it ſelf even unto *Herbal down*, being plentifully alſo ſtock'd with wild and ſavage animals, ſuch as the Boar & fiercer Bear. One part or portion of this forreſt *viz.* *Boſindene* was purchaſed by *Clarenbald*, the firſt Abbot of this Monaſtry, and hath ever ſince, until the diſſolution of this cloyſter, continued faithful *Forreſter.*

ful thereunto. In the poſſeſſion of the office of chief Forreſter of the *Blean*, I find one Mr. *Thomas Hungerford*, not long before the fall of this houſe, admitted thereunto by the grant or charter of *John* laſt Abbot of this monaſtry bearing date the 26 of *Febr:* in the 25. *H.* 8. whereby this officer was to have for his ſalary three pounds ſterling *per Annum*.

Calefactory Having now given you an account of this *Forreſter*. There is one room formerly belonging unto this monaſtry, and hitherto forgotten by me, which is worth our notice, and that is the *Calefactory*, a place where the monkes were wont to warm themſelves after they came from their mattines. To this purpoſe I find one *Robert Fale* aforementioned, by his will 21. *H.* 8. to deviſe 8 load of wood a year to be burnt in this place.

The *Stables* haye not yet been remem-

remembred by me, which ſtood in that we call the *Abby-cloſe*, at diſtance from the other Offices: I read of one *Stable* called the *Palfry ſtable*, which was for the ſaddle Nags and Geldings of the Abbot. This *Stable* ſtood upon the ground whereon Sir *George Sonds* hath lately built his Farmhouſe. *Palfry ſtabl.*

To this place there were divers Officers appointed, as the *Stallarius* or Maſter of the horſe. And under him the *Provendarius*, who was to provide provender for them, &c.

By the death of every Abbot, &c. the King by his Prerogative was to have his *Ring*, *Cup*, *Palfry* and *kennel of Hounds*, for which he was wont to iſſue out a Writ to his Eſchaetor to ſeiſe the ſame. And although that the cuſtody of ſuch Abbies in the times of their vacations, together with their goods, &c. had been granted over by the King to ſome Subject, yet this

ſpecial

ſpecial privilege paſſed not by ſuch grant, but the King might notwithſtanding write to the Eſchaetor to ſeize the ſame, as appears by this enſuing Writ.

Ex archivis Turris Anno 30. Ed. 1.

Rex &c. *Eſcaetori ſuo ſalutem. Licet dilecti nobis in Chriſto prior & conventus eccleſiæ* Sanctæ Crucis *de* Waltham *per chartas progenitorum noſtrorum Regum* Angliæ *quas inſpeximus, habere debeant cuſtodiam domûs ſuæ præd' & omnium bonorum ejuſdem in ſingulis vacationibus ſuis poſt mortem Abbatum ſuorum quorumcunque, per quod vobis mandavimus quòd occaſione mortis* Roberti *nupèr Abbatis ejuſdem domûs, vos de eâdem domo aut bonis ejuſdem quibuſcunque in aliquo non intromitteretis & ſi quid indè recepiſſetis occaſione prædictâ id eis ſine dilatione reſtitui faceretis. Intentionis tamen noſtræ fuit & eſt quòd* Annulus, Cuppa, Palefridus & Mota canum *qui fuerunt præd' Abbatis die quo obiit a prædictis Priore & Conventû*

Prins Hiſt. K. J. H. 3. & Ed. 1. 930.

ventû per vos ad opus noſtrum, ſi ad nos per mortem ejuſdem Abbatis pertinere debeant, exigantur. Ità tamen quod Annulo, Cuppâ, Palefrido, & Motâ *ſic exactis, vos exactionem illam ponatis in reſpectum uſq; ad proximum Parlamentum noſtrum, ut tunc indè fiat quod de conſilio noſtro ſuper hoc duxerimus ordinand'. Et ideò vobis mandamus quòd factâ exactione hujuſmodi, eam ponatis in reſpectum uſque ad proximum Parlamentum noſtrum et habeatis ibi tunc hoc breve.*

Teſte Rege apud Edenburgh 2. *die* Feb.

Per breve de privato ſigillo.

But to proceed: Here was likewiſe within this Abby a *Grammar School*, founded by *John Cole*, ſometimes Warden of *All-ſouls* Colledge in *Oxford*, wherein this Covent was to be inſtructed in *Grammar*.

To the maintenance whereof the ſaid *John Cole* by Licenſe of

H. 8.

H. 8. under the Great Seal, in the 12th year of his Reign gave theſe enſuing lands to the Abbot and Covent of *Faverſham*, *viz.*

1. A meſſuage with 16 acres of land, and 8 acres of paſture with their appurtenances, in the pariſh of *Leydon* in the Iſle of *Shepey*.

2. One meſſuage and 20 acres of land in *Hernhill*, late *Stephen Stocke*'s.

3. Another meſſuage and 19 acres of land in the ſaid pariſh of *Hernhill* late *John Stephen*'s.

4. Two Crofts of land with the appurtenances, called *Gyblotts* and *Lovecote* containing 3 acres and 3 rods, and one Croft of land called *Martyn Lands* containing 4 acres in the pariſh of *Hernhill*.

5. Two pieces of land called *Colkeham* and *Mentleham* containing 23 acres in *Hernhil* aforeſaid.

6. One piece of land called *Surrendens Croft* containing 7 acres lying in the pariſh of *Faverſham*.

7. One

7. One *Marſh* with the appurtenances called *Poynings Marſh* containing 10 acres, and 35 acres of land lying in *Ewell field* in *Faverſham*, and the part of the Manor or Tenement of *Ewell* with th' appurtenances of one Garden and 170 acres of land called *Ewel lands* in *Faverſham* aforeſaid, and *Goodneſtone* near *Faverſham*.

The Warden and Fellows of *All-ſouls* in *Oxon*, were to nominate the School-maſter, and the Abbot and his Succeſſors was to allow the ſaid Maſter 10 l *per An.* wages, meat, drink, and a gown of cloth, a chamber, and 4 loade of fuel *annually*.

But not long were theſe and other the foremention'd lands & premiſſes (which the piety of our Forefathers had endowed this Abby with) employed to their primitive uſes: For ſoon after fell that diſmal ſtorm of diſſolution in the 27th year of *H.* 8. ſo ominous to all Religious Structures, whoſe malignity and fury, although

although it firſt fell hardeſt on the leſſer houſes, beating them down, and diſtorting their demeans, yet even thoſe of the greater magnitude (amongſt which this our Abby) whoſe grandeur and haughtineſs was ſuch, that they would not preſently fall, had their foundations terribly ſhaken by it. Inſomuch, that within two years after, like crazy buildings whom a ſtorm had weakned, moſt of the Religious Houſes in *England* calmly and tamely, rather by inſinuation and flattery than violence, yield themſelves to fate, and their intereſt in their lands into the hands of *H.* 8. Amongſt which this our Abby, in the 30th year of that King, in the month of *July*, was by an inſtrument in Latin (prepared by *Cromwel* and his agents to that purpoſe) ſurrendred into the hands of *Richard Leyton* one of the then Maſters of the Chancery (a perſon commiſſionated for the ſame purpoſe)

poſe) to the uſe of the King with all its goods, ornaments, &c. by

John, Abbot thereof.
Robert Faverſham, Prior.
John Harty, Sacriſt.
Thomas Selling, Cellerar.
Dunſtan Chartham, ſub-Prior.
William Frytenden.
Ralph Ulcomb.
Peter Sedenghorn.

The Office of Prior was to be chief in the abſence of the Abbot, and ſecond in his preſence.

Whoſe names are all written in the margent of the ſaid inſtrument, being to be ſeen in the *Augmentation Office*, under the ſeal of the ſaid Abby; which ſeal is become ſo maimed and imperfect, not ſo much through time as ill uſage, that I cannot well deſcribe it, wherefore pardon my omiſſion of it at preſent.

Thus have we ſeen, *Reader*, that bodies politick as well as natural bodies can dye.

I might inlarge my ſelf now by making inquiry into the cauſes that moved H. 8. to the extirpation of ſo many Religious Foun-

dations; but because I aime at brevity, and have already surpassed the limits I at first prescribed my self, I shall sum up the causes briefly in the words of an elegant and witty Poet.

——*In the common fate*
The neighboring Abby fell. May no such storm
Fall on our age, where ruine must reform!
Tell me my Muse what monstrous dire offence,
What crime could any Christian King incense
To such a rage? Was't luxury or lust?
Was he so temperate, so chast, so just? (more.
Were these their crimes? They were his own much
But they (alas!) were rich and he was poor;
And having spent the treasure of his Crown,
Condemns their luxury to feed his own.
And yet this act, to varnish o'e the shame
Of Sacriledge, must bear Devotions name.
And he might think it just, the cause and time
Consider'd well, for none commits a crime
Appearing such; but as 'tis understood
A real, or at least a seeming good.
Thus, to the ages past he makes amends,
Their charity destroys, their faith defends.
Then did religion in a lazy cell,
In empty, airy contemplations dwell,
And like the block unmoved lay, whilest ours
As much too active like the Stork *devours.*
Is their no temperate Region to be known
Betwixt their frigid and our torrid Zone?

Could

Could we not wake from that Lethargick dream,
But to be reſtleſs in a worſe extream?
And for that Lethargy was there no cure,
But to be caſt into a Calenture? &c.

But enough. If not to much of this.

To proceed.

King *Henry* 8. by vertue of the ſaid ſurrender being inveſted with all the revenues & goods of this Abby, for a competent proviſion and maintenance for the Abbot and Monkes, who were ſtrangers to the world and the affairs thereof, granted them ſeveral penſions for their lives.

The Abbot himſelf had an 100 markes *per annum*, as appears by this enſuing grant.

Henricus *octavus Dei gratiâ* Angliæ & Franciæ *Rex fidei defenſor*, *Dominus* Hiberniæ & *in terrâ ſupremum caput* Anglicanæ *Eccleſiæ. Omnibus ad quos preſentes literæ pervenerint ſalutem. Cum nuper Monaſterium de* Faverſham *in comitatû noſtro* Pynes Authorem.

Cantiæ *jam diſſolvatur, unde quidam* Joh. Caſtlock *aliàs dictus* Shepey *tempore diſſolutionis illius & diù anteà Abbas ibidem fuit, Nos volentes rationabilem annualem penſionem ſive promotionem condignam eidem* Joh. *ad victum exhibitionem & ſuſtentationem ſuam meliùs ſuſtinendum provideri, Sciatis igitur quòd nos in conſideratione præmiſſorum de gratiâ noſtrâ ſpeciali ac ex certâ ſcientiâ & mero motu noſtris per adviſamentum & conſenſum Cancellarii & conſilii Curiæ augmentationum reventionum Coronæ noſtræ dedimus conceſſimus, ac per præſentes damus & concedimus præfato* Joh. *quandam annuitatem ſive annualem penſionem centum Marcarum Sterlingor' habend' gaudend' & annuatim percipiend' eaſden centum Marcas prafato* Joh. *& aſſignatis ſuis à feſto annuntiationis Beatæ* Mariæ *virginis ultimò præterit' ad terminum & pro termino*

vitæ

vitæ ipſius Joh. *vel quouſque idem* Joh. *ad unum vel plura beneficia eccleſiaſtica ſive aliam promotionem condignam clari annui valoris centum marcarum aut ultra per nos promotus fuerit, tàm per manus Theſaurarii reventionum augmentationum Coronæ noſtræ pro tempore exiſtenti de Theſauro noſtro in manibus ſuis de reventionibus præd' remanere conting', quàm per manus Receptoris particularium exituum & reventionum dicti nupèr Monaſterii pro tempore exiſtentis de eiſdem exitibus & reventionibus ad feſta ſancti* Michaelis *Archangeli & annuntiationis Beatæ* Mariæ *virginis per æquales portiones ſolvend', Eo quod expreſſa mentio de vero valore annuo aut de certitudine præmiſſorum ſive eorum alicujus aut de aliis donis ſive conceſſionibus per nos prefato* Joh. *ante hæc tempora fact' in præſentibus minimè fact' exiſtit, aut aliquo ſtatuto, actû, ordinatione, proviſione ſive reſtrictione*

indè hîc fact' ordinat' ſive proviſ', aut aliquâ aliâ re, cauſâ vel materiâ quâcunque in aliquo non obſtante. In cujus rei teſtimon' has literas noſtras fieri fecimus patentes. Teſte Richardo Rich *milite apud* Weſtm' 24 Julii *Anno regni noſtri triceſſimo.*

DUKE.

Per Cancellarium & concilium Curiæ Augmentationum Coronæ Regis, virtute warranti Regis.

Let us a little winnow the words of the Patent, and we ſhall find in it two things obſervable.

1. That the Penſioner was to be in the covent (*diù anteà*) long before the diſſolution thereof.

2. The annuity or penſion was to ceaſe when the party was advanced by the King to a Church dignity or living amounting to an 100 markes *per annum.*

1. For the firſt our Abbot could fully ſatisfie that clauſe of (*diù anteà*;) he being choſen Abbot upon the ſurrender of *Walter Goore,*

Goore, which was made (as hath been ſaid) in the 14th. year of *H.* 7 and in the year of our Lord, 1499. ſo that by juſt accounts he had been Abbot at the diſſolution of this houſe full 40 years. The years then of his age muſt needs be as much more, for he muſt be ſuppoſed to have been the Senior of the houſe, (the honour of Abbot deſcending commonly upon the eldeſt) and forty years was but a moderate age to undertake the gravity and weight of ſo conſiderable an office and charge.

2. As to the Annuity of 100 markes, how long it laſted, whether it ceaſed by the death of the ſaid Abbot (as being promoted to an heavenly, before an earthly benefice) I cannot ſay. But that he was every way fitted and capacitated for the laſt (the oath of his profeſſion and regular habit being releaſed) will appear by the enſuing Patents.

Letters of Diſpenſation granted by the Archbiſhop of *Cant.* unto the Abbot to take upon him a ſecular habit and qualifie him for a benefice.

penes Authorem.

Tho *miſeratione Divinâ* Cantuariens' *Epiſcop' totius* Angliæ *Primas & Metrapolit' ad infraſcripta authoritate parlamenti* Angliæ *legitimè fulcitus, Dilecto nobis in Chriſto* Joh. Shepey *nupèr Abbati ſoluti Monaſterij de* Faverſham *noſtræ* Cantuariens' *dioceſios ordinis divini* Benedicti *probro regularem vitam profeſſo ſalutem gratiam & benè cupientes te ob tuorum exigentiam meritorum favore proſequi gratioſo ut Religionem quam profeſſus es exire & ad ſæculum te conferre Ac ibidèm de cætero in veſte ſæcularis probri vitam agere Nec non Beneficium eccleſiaſticum etiamſi curam habeat animarum obtinere liberè & lictiè valeas & poſſis authoritate*

ritate prædictâ diſpenſamus, contrariis dicti ordinis & canonicis inſtitutis non obſtantibus quibuscunque. Dat' in manerio noſtro de Lambeth *ſub noſtro ſigillo ad facultates*, 26 *die* Julii, *Anno Domini* 1538 *& noſtræconſecrat' anno ſexto.*

John Hughes.

Beſides this of the Archbiſhop's, it was thought requiſite to have the King's letters patents for the confirmation thereof; which, becauſe it hath relation to the former and either of them are not to be met with in print (as I have yet diſcovered,) I will not withhold from you.

Henry the eight his confirmation of the Archbiſhop's diſpenſation.

Henricus *octavus Dei gratiâ* Angliæ & Franciæ *Rex fidei defenſor, Dominus* Hiberniæ *& in terrâ ſupremum caput* Anglicanæ *eccleſiæ. Omnibus ad quos præſentes literæ* *penes Authorem.*

literæ pervenerint ſalutem. Inſpeximus quaſdam literas diſpenſ' præſentibus annexas quas & ſingula in eis content' juxta quendam actum indè in Parlamento noſtro edit' ratificamus, approbamus & confirmamus per præſentes, ità quòd Johannes Shepey *in dictis literis nominat' omnibus & ſingulis in eiſdem ſpecificatis uti, frui & potiri valeat & poſſit liberè & quietè, licitè & impunè ſecundùm vim formam et effectum earundem impedimento quocunque in aliquo non obſtante. In cujus rei teſtimonium has literas noſtras fieri fecimus patentes. Teſte meiſpo apud* Weſtm' *ultimo die* Julii *Anno Regni noſtri triceſſimo.*

Vaughan.

Thus have I ſhewn you our Abbot exactly qualified for a benefice: and 'tis very likely he had it, for being ſo provided for, his penſion or annuity ceaſed, and the

the Exchequer was diſcharged from future paying him any exhibition.

When or where he died, I confeſs I cannot tell, and ſhall acknowledge my ſelf oblig'd to him that can inform me: But the antient name of *Caſtlock* continued with credit and eminency in the town, till lately it expired and went out by the death of *John Caſtlock* Grandſon to *John* Son of *William* Brother to *John* the laſt Abbot of the Monaſtry of St. *Saviours* at *Faverſham*, whoſe Monuments are viſible in the Pariſh Church.

Having now done with the Abbot, and given you an account of what proviſion was made for him; It remains, that I give you an account of the Monks his Brethren, and of the care that was uſed by *H.* 8. for them likewiſe.

And at the time of the ſurrender of this houſe, I find theſe perſons, Monks there, *viz.*

1. *Robert*

1. *Robert Chillenden*
2. *John Fillpot*
3. *Dunſtan Goodhew*
4. *John Tayler*
5. *Tho. Dene*
6. *Peter Mynce*
7. *William Coyden*
8. *Ralph Poſt.* al. *Ulcomb.*

All which had ſeveral *Annual* penſions of 4 or 5l *per an.* aſſigned them for their lives, as I find in a parchment book in the *Auzmentation Office* in the cuſtody of Mr. *Moore.*

And with this pittance were they pack'd away, turn'd out of their warm and hoſpitable Cloyſters into the cold and uncharitable world, where dig they could not, and to beg they were aſhamed; their fingers were either too ſtiff (as one ſaith) by reaſon of old age, to begin now to bow to a manual trade, or hands too ſoft (becauſe of their tender breeding) to take pains in a laborious vocation.

What a ſad condition theſe miſerable wretches were in, I will leave to the *Readers* tender breaſt to judge.

And

And now (the *Bees* being flown) let us alittle conſider the ſtrange havock was made by a pack of *drones* within their *hives*.

For although that ſome profit was raiſed by the pilching of the Monaſtries of their Plate, &c. to the Kings Exchequer, yet the far greateſt part of the prey came to others hands. Inſomuch that many private mens Parlours were hung with Altar-cloths, their tables & beds covered with Copes inſtead of Carpets and Coverlies, and many made carouſing cups of the ſacred Chalices, as once *Belſhazzer* celebrated his drunken Feaſts in the ſanctified veſſels of the Temple. It was a ſorry houſe, and not worth the naming which had not ſomewhat of this furniture in it, though it were only a fair cuſhion made of a Cope or Altar-cloth to adorn their windows, or make their chairs appear to have ſomewhat in them of a chair of ſtate: But enough of this——

Heyling Eccleſ. Reſtaurat. 134.

I ſhall

I ſhall now briefly conclude my ſurvey of this Abby with this remarkable *Memoire*. That neither the Abbot of this houſe, or any of his Brethren were detected or branded with any crooked or irregular deviation from the paths of honour and vertue, but with all ſincerity and faithfulneſs they are found to have led their lives in this their ſequeſtration and retirement from the world, innocent as Doves and harmleſs as Sheep.—— None of thoſe black and hainous crimes of Fornication and Adultery being charg'd on their accounts.

The Revenues and Rents of their Covent and Cloyſter they ſpent in hoſpitality and good houſe-keeping, welcoming the ſtranger, and relieving the poor and needy. They did not riot it away upon their Concubines and Harlots, diminiſhing the eſtate of their Monaſtry, to improve and enlarge the eſtates of their Baſtards, as did the Abbot of *Ston-*

ly

ly in the county of *Warwick*, who was found by inquiſition taken in the Reign of *Ed.* 3. to have aliened the chiefeſt part of the Revenues of his Houſe to his Concubines and Baſtards, which laſt were found to have exceeded in number the Monks and Votaries that were in that Cloyſter: But to the Record it ſelf, which ſaith, *Alienavit præd' Abbas diverſis hominibus particulariter, prout patet inferiùs*, viz. Iſabellæ *de* Beneſhale *Concubinæ dicti Abbatis &* Johanni *filio eorundem Abbatis &* Iſabellæ *primogenito unum Meſſuagium & unam Carucatam terræ et decem mercat redditus cum pertinentiis in* Fynham: *Habend' & tenend' ad terminum vitæ eorundem* Iſabellæ *et* Johannis *abſq; aliquo inde reddendo annuatim*—— And then again by the ſame inquiſition it was found that diverſe other Leaſes for lives were made to diverſe perſons to and for the benefit of the ſaid Abbot and his Concubines, and

Cook 2. Inſt. 458.

and his and her Baſtards. But it is beſt to uſe the words of the Record it ſelf — *Abſque aliquo indè reddendo vel præ manibus indè de eiſdem perepto : Sed tantummodò ad opus & proficuum ipſius Abbatis & maximè pro ſuſtentatione et inventione præd'* Iſabellæ *& puerorum eorundem Abbatis &* Iſabellæ *qui excedunt numerum Monachorum ſuorum miſſas celebrantium ſi fortè deponeretur de ſtatû ſuo*, &c.

Our Abbot (I ſay) was not tainted with any of theſe vicious exceſſes: But however innocent, being caught amongſt the guilty, like the unhappy *Stork* in the Fable who (though innocent himſelf yet) being found in the Huſbandmans corn in company of the more injurious *Geeſe* and *Cranes*, was condemned to accompany them in their ſufferings likewiſe.

The Revenues of this Abby (according to the antient Rents and favourable Rates of ſuch endowments

dowments in thoſe dayes) were valued, at the ſuppreſſion thereof, to be well worth 286l 12s 6d by the year: which ſince they are come into the poſſeſſion of Laymen are improved to at leaſt 2000l *per Annum.*

FINIS.

HAving now repreſented unto you the eſtate and condition of the Abby, it remaines, that, according to my promiſe, I ſay ſomewhat of the Priory of *Davington*.

It was founded, ſaith Mr. *Lambert* by *Henry* the ſecond about the ſecond year of his Reign, for black *Nuns*, in emulation, as it ſhould ſeem, of that which his immediate predeceſſour King *Stephen* had erected at *Faverſham*.

But others would have *Fulke de Newnham* to be founder thereof: but I am apt to incline that *Fulke de Newnham* was rather a Benefactor than Founder thereof.

The Church and Parſonage of *Newnham* being appropriated to this Houſe by the ſaid *Fulke*, as hath been ſaid before.

The Church of *Davington*, and ſo was the Priory whilſt in being, commended unto the patronage of

of St. *Mary Magdalen*, ſerving the Nuns for their private, as now the whole pariſh for their publick devotion.

Theſe Nuns were ſuppoſed by *Harpsfield* to have been *French* Women, for that *Walter Reinolds* ſometime Archbiſhop of *Canterbury* preſcribed them rules or ordinances in the *French* Tongue for their more eaſie intellect.

This Priory ſunk into decay long before the general diſſolution, for that their poverty was ſuch, that they were unable to ſupport their due number of Votaries according to the preſcription of their Founder.

The *Leiger-Book* of this Houſe being either loſt or got into private hands, and the *Augmentation Office* being ſilent of its Revenues, I have nothing more to ſay concerning it.——

But that they were alwayes called the *Poor Nuns* of *Davington*.

Oſpringe.

LEave we now *Davington* and ſtep unto *Oſpringe-ſtreets*, where the maimed ſkeleton of the *Major Dieu* preſents it ſelf unto the travellers eye, imploring both his pitty and ſtay.

It was Founded, as Mr. *Philpot* would have it, by *Lucas de Vienna*, but a Manuſcript in the hands of that Pious and Orthodox Divine Mr. *Thomas Cater* preacher of Gods word in this Pariſh, my very good Friend, (to whom I owe the chiefeſt of my knowledge in the concerns of this place) informs me that *Henry* the third erected it.

It conſiſted of a Maſter and three Regular Fryars or Brethren whoſe profeſſion was of the Order of the *Holy Croſs*, and of two Secular Clarks whoſe office was to pray for the ſouls of *H.* 3. his Predeceſſors and Succeſſors. And alſo to be hoſpitable, and give entertainment to the poor and needy paſſengers and pilgrims.

It

It was one of thoſe Manſions where the Knights Templers, and after them the Hoſpitallers repoſed themſelves in their Progreſs toward their other Demeans in this County.

The Revenue which ſupported this Houſe lay at *Lurenden* in *Challock* and at *Hokeling*, *Rydemarſh*, *Ryde*, and other places in the Iſle of *Sheppey*.

The Parſonage of *Oſpringe*, together with the Vicarage was appropriated unto this Houſe.

Here was ſometime paſt a Chamber in this Houſe called *Camæra Regis*, as I find by an antient *Perambulation* of the town of *Faverſham*, which leads us *ad parietem Camæræ Regis in eâdem domo Dei verſus* North. which I conceive was a chamber wherein the King in his Progreſs this way was wont to repoſe himſelf.

The Governour or Chief of this Houſe was called *Magiſter Hoſpitalis beatæ Mariæ Virginis de Oſpringe* (the houſe it ſeems

being dedicated unto the bleſſed Virgin *Mary*.

Pryns Hiſt. H.3.& Ed. 1. &c. One *Peter* ſometime Maſter of this houſe in the 22 year of *Ed.* 1. paid a Subſidy to that King, and had a ſpecial protection granted unto him.

Upon a little window of ſtone to the ſtreet-wards, yet remaining, which ſupplies the dwelling houſe with light, I find two Croſſes, the one plain, thus,

The other double-croſſed thus.

Which denotes unto us, that it had relation unto the aforeſaid Religious Order of *Knight*.

This

This Houſe is none of them that can lay his death to the charge of *Henry* the Eighth, but rather to its own folly, it being little better than a *felo de ſe.*

The ſtory thereof is thus related.

The Maſter or Governour dying firſt, ſoon after one of the Brethren chanc'd to dye, which was ſurmiſed by the reſt of the cowardly Brethren to be occaſion'd by the Plague amongſt them, whereupon, in or upon the ſixth day of *June* in the two and twentieth year of the Reign of *Edward* the fourth, the other baſely forſook the Houſe, and took no order to chooſe any other in their room, whereupon that King was intituled thereunto by Eſcheat. And preſently this Houſe with its Revenues were folded up amongſt the Demeans of the

Crown, untill the tenth year of *Henry* the Eighth, who deveſted his Crown thereof, beſtowing the Revenues and Scite of this Houſe upon St. *John*'s Colledge in *Cambridge*, to whoſe Propriety it ſtill continues fixed and conſtant.

FINIS.

The Deſcent of King Stephen *as exſtracted from that Eminent family of the Earls of* Blois *and* Champaigne, *being An* Appendix *to the former Diſcourſe.*

By *Thomas Philipot* Eſquire.

KIng *Steven*, that was inveſted with the Engliſh Diadem, and founded the Abby of *Faverſham*, was branch'd

branch'd out, from the Earls of *Blois*, *Brie*, *Touraine* and of *Champaigne* alſo, the laſt of which was the Seat and habitation of the *Catalauni*, *Tricaſſi*, *Lingones*, *Rhemi*, and *Senones*; they were Counts *Palatine*, and had the power of creating publick Notaries, and exerciſing *Haut* and *Baſe* Juſtice, and were likwiſe in the Regiſter of the 12 Peers of *France*, and were ſometimes Majors of the palace to the Monarchs of that Kingdome. But before I wade farther in this diſcourſe, I ſhall take a Summarie proſpect of the Hiſtory of theſe Earls, and then unravel their Deſcent and extraction, and the eminent Intertexture of thoſe Collateral Alliances that have ſo much enobled this Houſe and Family.

Hugh Capet gave *Champaigne* to *Odo* or *Eudes* with all the Franchiſes and Priviledges of a County

County *Palatine* annexed to it, which *Odo* had married his Daughter, whileſt he was under the Umbrage of a private Fortune: This *Odo* was Son of *Theobald* Earl of *Blois*, and Nephew of *Gerſon* a noble *Dane*, to whom *Charles* the Simple gave the City and County of *Blois*, *An.* 920. to appeaſe that Fury which had ingag'd him before to make ſuch miſerable havock and ravage on the Maritime Region of *France*.

A Series of the Earls of Blois *and* Champaigne.

Odo Son of *Theobald* Earle of *Blois*, *Brie*, *Touraine* and *Champaigne*. 999.

Steven Earle of *Blois* and *Champaigne*, Father to *Steven* King of *England*. 1032.

Theobald

1101. *Theobald* eldeſt Son of *Steven* Earl of *Blois* and *Champaigne*.

1151. *Henry* Son of *Theobald*.

1181. *Henry* the ſecond Son of *Henry*, eminent for his ſervice perform'd in the holy warre, but more conſpicuous by being King of *Jeruſalem*, in Right of *Izabell* his wife Daughter of *Almericus*.

1196. *Theobald* the ſecond Son of *Henry* the ſecond match'd with *Blanch* Siſter and Heir of *Sancho* the eighth King of *Navarre*.

1201. *Theobald* the third Son of *Theobald* the ſecond, Earl of *Blois* and *Champaigne*, ſucceeded in the Realm of *Navarre*. Theo-

Theobald the fourth Son of *Theobald* the third, Earl of *Blois* and *Champaigne*, and King of *Navarre*. 1269.

Henry the third Son of *Theobald* the fourth, Earl of *Blois* and *Champaigne*, and King of *Navarre*. 1271.

Philip the fourth ſtil'd the Fair King of *France* and King of *Navarre*, and Earl of *Blois* and *Champaigne* alſo, in Right of *Joan* his wife Heir of *Henry* the third. 1284.

Lewis Hutin King of *France* and *Navarre*, and Earl of *Blois* and *Champaigne*. 1313.

Philip the Long, King of *France* and *Navarre*. 1315.

Charles

1320. *Charles* the Fair Brother of *Lewis* and *Philip* the Long, King of *France* & *Navarre*, after whoſe deceaſe the Earldoms of *Blois* and *Champaigne* were with their concatenated Demeaſne united to the Crown by *Philip de Valois* King of *France*, He giving in Exchange for ſo Important a Revenue to *Joan* Queen of *Navarre*, only the Earldom of *March* neer *Angoleſme*, and ſome other petty Towns; which *Joan* was Daughter to *Lewis Hutin*, and matched to *Philip* Earl of *Eureux*, from which Alliance *Lewis* the fourteenth, the preſent Monarch of *France*,

France, and the princes of the Houſe of *Bourbon* are originally deſcended.

Theſe Earls of *Champaigne* were likewiſe enrolled in the number of the twelve Peers of *France* whoſe original Inſtitution ſome entitle to *Charlemain*, others aſcribe to *Hugh Capet*.

The Original of the name and Function of the Peers of *France* cannot be better deduced (as Mr. *Pithou* obſerves) than from the common uſage of their *Fiefs*, which is, when the Vaſſals holding in *Fief* or *Fee* of the ſame Lord fully and directly, are ſtil'd *Pares Curiæ*, and are oblig'd to be aſſiſtant when the Lord takes poſſeſſion of his Lands, to be preſent at the Judgment of *Fiefs*, and other Rights which they enjoy in proportion with the

the Peers of *France*; who in like manner are aſſiſtant at the Coronation of the King and his Councellours in his Court of Parlament, which for that reaſon hath obtained the Denomination of *The Court of Peers*, ſo that, in a word, the Peers of *France* are only Tenants in *Fee*, holding their Lands immediately of the Crown, ſuch as were antiently the Seven Peers in the time of *Lewis le June*, *Anno* 1179. Originally there were but ſix Peers, the Dukes of *Burgundy*, *Normandy*, and *Aquitain*, the Counts of *Champaigne*, *Tholouſe*, and *Flanders*, to which have been ſince added the ſix Eccleſiaſticks, the Archbiſhop and Duke of *Rhemes*, the Biſhops and Dukes of *Laon* and *Langres*, & the three Eccleſiaſtical Counts the Biſhops of *Beauvais*, *Chalons* in *Champaigne* and *Noyon*, to the firſt of which the Archbiſhop of *Rhemes Lewis le June* granted

granted the Primacie, making him firſt Peere of *France* with the Prerogative of Crowning the Kings. The Functions at the Coronations are theſe; the Arch-Biſhop of *Rhemes* hath the privilege of Anointing the King with the oyl of the Holy *Ampulla*, the Biſhop of *Laon* carries the Saint *Ampoulle* or holy Vial, the Biſhop of *Langres* the Scepter, and in the abſence of the Arch-Biſhop of *Rhemes*, anoints the King, the Biſhop of *Beauvais* carries the Royal Mantle, the Biſhop of *Chalons* the Ring, and the Biſhop of *Noyon* the Belt, or Baudrick, the Duke of *Burgundy* carries the Crown, and puts on the Kings Sword, the Duke of *Aquitaine* the firſt Banner, the Duke of *Normandy* the ſecond, the Count of *Champaigne* the Banner-Royal or Standard *de Guerr*, the Count of *Tholouſe*, and the Count of *Flanders* ſupport the Sword on the day of the Coronation:

Theſe Peers do wear a circle of Gold on their heads (during the whole Ceremony) in faſhion and figure of a Crown.

The Earles of *Champaigne* were likewiſe ſometimes Majors of the Palace, and Vicars of the Realm of *France*, ſtil'd in old *French* Records, *Vicarii Regni*, & were in their power proportionate to the *Præfecti Prætorio*, in the declining condition of the *Roman* Empire, or elſe did reſemble the *Sultans* under the *Saracenical Caliphs*, or the Vice-Roys under the *Pharaohs*; The Office Entitles its Inſtitution to *Clotaire* the ſecond, who being a Prince of much ſoftneſs and Effeminacie, appear'd only in publick on *May* day, in a Chariot drawn with four Oxen, and garniſh'd and embelliſh'd with flowers, but tranſmitted all affairs of Importance, to the managerie and Conduct of this Great Officer, for he open'd Pacquets, gave Audience to Embaſſadors, heard

heard Complaints and redreſſed them, enacted Lawes, and repeal'd them. A late Author that hath repreſented to us the preſent ſtate of *France*, thus pourtrays this Eminent Officer; *The Majors of the Palace* (ſayes he) *under the firſt Race of the* French *Kings, were in the nature of Lieutenant Generals of the whole Kingdome, and as according to the antient eſtabliſhments, there was one Duke over every twelve Counties, and ſome Dukes which had the Government of Provinces entire, ſo the* Majors du Palais, *had as it were, ſuperintendencie over the Dukes themſelves, and ſtiled themſelves* Dukes *or* Princes *ſo the* French. *His Authority in thoſe dayes was not confin'd to the Verge and circumference of the Kings Houſehold (in which he diſpoſed of all places) but he had a Power and Prerogative over all Officers of War, Juſtice, Trea-*

ſurie, and what ever elſe had a reflection upon the Affairs of State.

The firſt Major of the Palace obvious in the *French* Records was one *Arnulphus*, deſcended lineally from *Utilo* the ſecond, Son of *Theodon* the firſt Duke, and Nephew of *Aldegarius* the laſt King of the *Baiarians* or *Bavarians*; which *Utilo* being a Martial and Magnanimous Prince, and having by the invitation and influence of *Theodorick* the firſt King of *Auſtraſia* or *Metz* repell'd the *Danes*, then miſerably infeſting the coaſts of Lower *Germany*, was by Him made Warden of thoſe Marches, honour'd with the marriage of his Daughter *Clotilda*, and liberally endowed with fair Poſſeſſions in that Tract. To *Arnulphus* (who had abandon'd the world and died Biſhop of *Metz*, *Anno* 641) ſucceeded

ceeded his Eldeſt Son *Anſegiſus* who drew unto himſelf the managerie of the whole eſtate, and he deceaſing in the year 679 tranſmitted his Authority and Office to his Nephew *Martin* Son to *Perdulphus* his younger Brother, but he being deſtroyed by *Ebronius* a bloody Competitor, *Pepin* ſtil'd the Fat, Son of *Anſegiſus*, to expiate his Couſins murder, cruſh'd all the oppoſite Factions, and upon their Ruines, roſe and reach'd the Honour to himſelf: And having much improv'd the Affairs of *France* by his conqueſt of the *Sueves*, and *Friſons*, deceaſed in the year 704, and bequeath'd this Office to his Natural Son (for *Grimold* his only lawfull Son, and *Theobald* the Son of *Grimold* expired not long before him) *Charles* begotten on his Concubine *Alheida* from his martial proweſſe ſo ſignally exemplified at the battel of

Tours (where he not only routed a prodigious Army of *Moors* and *Saracens*, but likewiſe after wrung *Languedoc* from the *Goths* and *Moors*, and annex'd it to the *Gallique* Diadem) ſurnamed *Martell*, and could have eaſily aſcended the Throne, and graſped the *French* Scepter, but that his Maxime was, *He had rather rule a King than be One.* To him ſucceeded his Eldeſt Son *Carolomain An.* 741 who ſway'd this Office but a year, and then convey'd it to his Brother *Pepin*, who being not ballaſt with that moderation as was his Father, upon a pretence of an Election of Pope *Zacharie* aſſumed the Scepter by depoſing, ſhaving and confining that infortunate Prince *Chilperick* to a Monaſtry; but he dreading that the power of this Officer which had given him opportunity of Uſurping the Regal Diadem, would again ſupplant and diſlodge

lodge him, retrench'd its Juriſdiction, and contracted it into a narrower channel, by conſtituting a *Seneſchal*, whoſe Dominion was to reach no farther than his Family. And though this Office began to re-flouriſh under *Hugh Capet* who planted it in *Odo* Earle of *Champaigne*, and after inveſted it in the Dukes of *Anjou*, yet it could never ſpread it ſelf into that extent of Authority, as into that it did originally diffuſe it ſelf, but remains at this inſtant only a ſkeleton of its former Grandeur, being fallen under the Denomination of *Grand Maſter of the Kings Houſehold*, and is lodg'd in the preſent Prince of *Conde*.

FINIS.

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